

REVIEW

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# Efficacy of alternative or adjunctive measures to conventional non-surgical and surgical treatment of peri-implant mucositis and peri-implantitis: a systematic review and meta-analysis

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## Abstract

**Purpose:** To evaluate the efficacy of alternative or adjunctive measures to conventional non-surgical or surgical treatment of peri-implant mucositis and peri-implantitis.

**Material and methods:** Prospective randomized and nonrandomized controlled studies comparing alternative or adjunctive measures, and reporting on changes in bleeding scores (i.e., bleeding index (BI) or bleeding on probing (BOP)), probing depth (PD) values or suppuration (SUPP) were searched.

**Results:** Peri-implant mucositis: adjunctive use of local antiseptics lead to greater PD reduction (weighted mean difference (WMD) = -0.23 mm;  $p=0.03$ , respectively), whereas changes in BOP were comparable (WMD = -5.30%;  $p=0.29$ ). Non-surgical treatment of peri-implantitis: alternative measures for biofilm removal and systemic antibiotics yielded higher BOP reduction (WMD = -28.09%;  $p=0.01$  and WMD = -17.35%;  $p=0.01$ , respectively). Surgical non-reconstructive peri-implantitis treatment: WMD in PD amounted to -1.11 mm favoring adjunctive implantoplasty ( $p=0.02$ ). Adjunctive reconstructive measures lead to significantly higher radiographic bone defect fill/reduction (WMD = 56.46%;  $p=0.01$  and WMD = -1.47 mm;  $p=0.01$ ), PD (-0.51 mm;  $p=0.01$ ) and lower soft-tissue recession (WMD = -0.63 mm;  $p=0.01$ ), while changes in BOP were not significant (WMD = -11.11%;  $p=0.11$ ).

**Conclusions:** Alternative and adjunctive measures provided no beneficial effect in resolving peri-implant mucositis, while alternative measures were superior in reducing BOP values following non-surgical treatment of peri-implantitis. Adjunctive reconstructive measures were beneficial regarding radiographic bone-defect fill/reduction, PD reduction and lower soft-tissue recession, although they did not improve the resolution of mucosal inflammation.

**Keywords:** Systematic review, Peri-implant disease, Treatment, Dental implant

## Introduction

Peri-implant diseases were defined during the 2017 World Workshop as biofilm-associated pathological conditions affecting osseointegrated dental implants, and they were further classified into peri-implant mucositis and peri-implantitis [1–3]. Peri-implant mucositis is characterized by inflammation in the soft tissue compartment, whereas peri-implantitis also features loss of

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the implant-supporting bone [1–3]. It is assumed that untreated peri-implant mucositis is the precursor to peri-implantitis [4]. The onset of peri-implantitis was shown to occur early on, and its progression was characterized by a nonlinear, accelerating pattern that, in the absence of therapy, may ultimately lead to implant loss [5]. Numerous cross-sectional studies have recently reported on the high prevalence of peri-implant diseases, pointing to their common appraisal in daily clinical practice [6–9].

There is evidence from experimental clinical studies that peri-implant mucositis is a reversible condition if adequate bacterial plaque control is implemented [10, 11]. Non-surgical therapy in conjunction with oral hygiene reinforcement is considered a standard care treatment for managing peri-implant mucositis [1, 12]. At peri-implantitis sites, in contrast, non-surgical mechanical treatment alone or with adjunctive (i.e., local antibiotics, antimicrobial photodynamic therapy—aPDT) or alternative measures (e.g., air abrasive devices, erbium-doped yttrium aluminum garnet—Er:YAG laser monotherapy), has demonstrated only limited efficacy in obtaining disease resolution, indicating the necessity of surgical therapy in a majority of the cases [12, 13].

Recently, numerous surgical treatment protocols have been advocated for treatment of peri-implantitis using various surface decontamination approaches, along with resective measures (e.g., apical flap, osteoplasty, implantoplasty), reconstructive measures (e.g., bone fillers/autografts, guided bone regeneration), or a combination thereof (referred to as combined therapy) [13, 14]. Nonetheless, the reported efficacy of different surgical treatment approaches in arresting further disease progression varied considerably [15–20].

Currently, it remains unclear which interventions are most effective for the management of peri-implant diseases. Therefore, the aim of this systematic review and meta-analysis was to address the following focused question: In patients with peri-implant mucositis or peri-implantitis, what is the efficacy of non-surgical and surgical treatment with alternative or adjunctive measures on changing signs of inflammation compared to conventional non-surgical and surgical treatments alone?

## Materials and methods

The review protocol was developed and structured according to the PRISMA (Preferred Re-porting Items for Systematic Review and Meta-Analyses) Statement [21]. The review was registered in PROSPERO, an international prospective register of systematic reviews (CRD42021247402).

### Focused question

The focused question serving for literature search was structured according to the PICO format: “In patients with peri-implant mucositis and peri-implantitis, what is the efficacy of non-surgical (i.e., referring to peri-implant mucositis and peri-implantitis) and surgical (i.e., referring to peri-implantitis) treatments with alternative or adjunctive measures on changing signs of inflammation compared with conventional non-surgical and surgical treatments alone?”.

### Population

Patients with peri-implant mucositis and peri-implantitis based on case definitions used in respective studies.

### Intervention

Alternative (for biofilm removal) or adjunctive (local or systemic application of adjunctive antiseptic/antibiotic or reconstructive/resective therapy) measures to non-surgical and surgical treatments of peri-implant mucositis or peri-implantitis.

### Comparison

Conventional measures for non-surgical and surgical treatments.

### Outcome: primary outcomes

Changes in bleeding scores (i.e., bleeding index (BI), modified BI (mBI), sulcus bleeding index (SBI), or bleeding on probing (BOP), suppuration (SUPP), and probing depth (PD) values; *secondary outcomes*: changes in peri-implant mucosal level (ML) and radiographic marginal bone levels (RBL), radiographic defect fill (RDF).

**Study design:** Prospective randomized controlled (RCT), or nonrandomized controlled (CCT) studies (split-mouth or parallel group designs).

### Study inclusion and exclusion criteria

#### Inclusion criteria:

1. Studies on peri-implant mucositis: Studies comparing alternative (i.e., for biofilm removal) or adjunctive measures (i.e., adjunctive antiseptic/antibiotic oral or systemic application) to conventional non-surgical (i.e., mechanical/ultrasonic debridement) treatment with at least 3 months of follow-up.
2. Studies on non-surgical treatment of peri-implantitis: Studies comparing alternative (i.e., for biofilm removal) or adjunctive measures (i.e., adjunctive antiseptic/antibiotic oral or systemic application) to conventional non-surgical (i.e., mechanical/ultrasonic debridement with or without chlorhexidine

- (CHX) irrigation) treatment with at least 6 months of follow-up.
3. Studies on surgical treatment of peri-implantitis: Studies comparing adjunctive measures (i.e., adjunctive measures for implant surface decontamination, resective therapy by means of implantoplasty or reconstructive approaches) to conventional surgical treatment (i.e., access flap surgery) with at least 6 months of follow-up.
  4. Studies reporting on clinical changes in bleeding scores (i.e., BI/BOP), SUPP and/or PDs, following non-surgical (referring to peri-implant mucositis and peri-implantitis) or surgical (referring to peri-implantitis) treatments in respective groups.
  5. Studies providing case definitions of peri-implant mucositis and peri-implantitis.
  6. Studies with a minimum of 10 patients (5 per treatment group).

The literature search was restricted to English language.  
Exclusion criteria:

1. Inclusion of less than five patients per treatment group.
2. Lack of case definition.
3. Lack of clinical data on the changes in BOP/BI, PD or SUPP.

#### Information source and search

Two electronic databases (MEDLINE (via PubMed) and The Cochrane Library) were searched for relevant articles published until 1<sup>st</sup> April 2021. The search filter ‘humans’ was applied. Electronic search was complemented by a hand search of the following journals:

*Clinical Implant Dentistry and Related Research; Clinical Oral Implants Research; International Journal of Oral and Maxillofacial Implants; Journal of Clinical Periodontology; Journal of Periodontology.*

The combination of the following key words (i.e., Medical Subject Headings MeSH) and free text terms included:

*“treatment” OR “nonsurgical treatment” OR “non-surgical treatment” OR “surgical treatment” OR “regenerative treatment” OR “augmentative treatment” OR “respective treatment” OR “reconstructive treatment” OR “therapy” OR “nonsurgical therapy” OR “non surgical therapy” OR “surgical therapy” OR “regenerative therapy” OR “augmentative therapy” OR “resective therapy” OR “reconstructive therapy” OR “antiseptic treatment” OR “antibiotic treatment”*

*OR “adjunctive treatment” OR “antiseptic therapy” OR “antibiotic therapy” OR “adjunctive therapy” AND*  
*“peri-implant disease” OR “periimplant disease” OR “peri-implant infection” OR “periimplant infection” OR “mucositis” (MeSH) OR “peri-implant mucositis” OR “periimplant mucositis” OR “Periimplantitis” (MeSH) OR “peri-implantitis”.*

#### Study selection

During the first literature-selection stage, according to the defined inclusion criteria, the titles and abstracts of all identified studies were screened for eligibility by two independent reviewers (A.R. and F.S.). In the second stage, the full texts of potentially eligible articles were reviewed and evaluated according to the aforementioned exclusion criteria. Differences between reviewers were resolved by discussion. The level of inter-examiner agreement for the first- and second literature-selection stages was expressed by Cohen’s kappa-scores.

#### Risk of bias in individual studies

The Cochrane Collaboration’s tool for assessing risk of bias (RoB 2) was used in the case of randomized clinical trials, whereas for nonrandomized studies, the ROBINS-I tool was employed [22].

#### Data collection

A data extraction template was generated and based on the study design, patient- and implant-related information, case definition, follow-up period, interventions, comparisons, and primary and secondary outcomes, patient enrollment into supportive therapy following the treatment as well as the study quality.

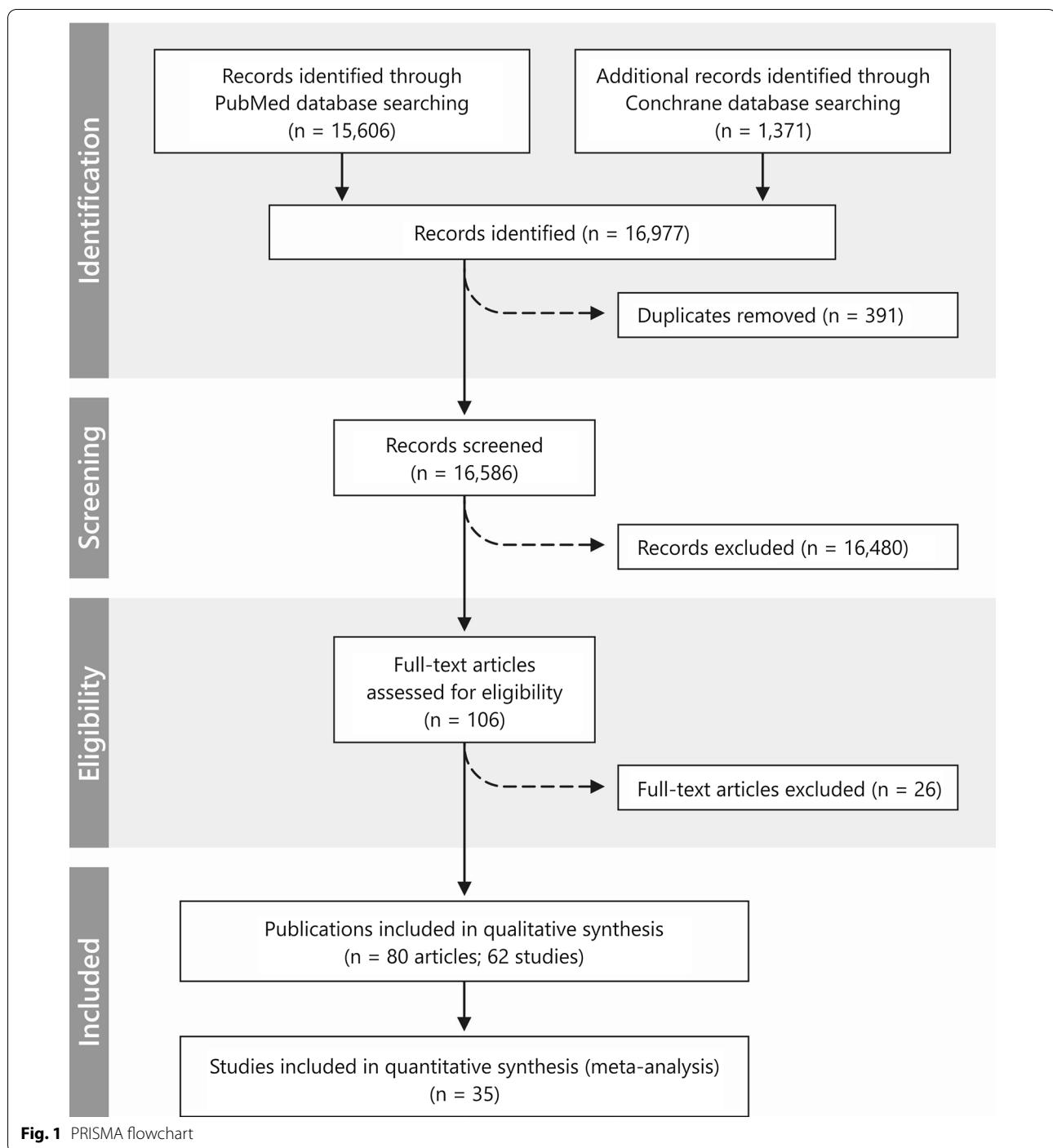
#### Data analyses

Heterogeneity among the studies, meta-analysis (i.e., weighted mean differences (WMDs) and 95% confidence intervals, random effect model to account for potential methodological differences between studies) and forest plots were assessed using a commercially available software program (Comprehensive Meta-Analysis V3, BioStat, Englewood, NJ 07,631 USA). Statistical significance was defined as  $p < 0.05$ .

## Results

#### Search and screening

The screening process yielded 16,586 articles, of which 106 were selected for full-text evaluation (Fig. 1; Cohen’s kappa = 0.723). Upon analysis of the full texts, 26 studies (28 publications) were excluded mainly due to a follow-up period < 6 months ( $n = 8$  studies) (for the studies reporting on peri-implantitis treatment) or a lack of a



control/comparative treatment group ( $n=3$  studies), or different diagnoses (i.e., peri-implantitis and peri-implant mucositis) being pooled into the analysis ( $n=2$  studies) (Additional file 1). Finally, 80 articles describing 62 studies were included in the review (Cohens kappa = 0.80). Of those studies, 18 reported on the treatment of peri-implant mucositis, 17 reported on non-surgical treatment

of peri-implantitis, and the remaining 27 reported on the surgical treatment of peri-implantitis.

#### Subdivision of selected studies

All selected studies were subdivided according to differences in the treatment protocol:

Non-surgical treatment of peri-implant mucositis:

- Alternative measures for biofilm removal (4 RCTs [23–26]);
- Adjunctive diode laser/antimicrobial photodynamic therapy (aPDT) (4 RCTs (5 publications) [27–31]);
- Adjunctive local antiseptics (4 RCTs [32–35]);
- Adjunctive systemic antibiotics (2 RCTs [29, 36]);
- Adjunctive probiotics (2 RCTs [37, 38]);
- Adjunctive antiseptic home care mouthrinse (3 RCTs [39–41]).

#### Non-surgical treatment of peri-implantitis:

- Alternative measures for biofilm removal (5 RCTs (6 publications) [42–47]);
- Adjunctive diode laser/aPDT (2 RCTs [48, 49])
- Adjunctive local antiseptics/antibiotics (6 RCTs (7 publications) [50–56]);
- Adjunctive systemic antibiotics (1 RCT and 1 CCT [57, 58]);
- Adjunctive probiotics (2 RCTs [59, 60]).

#### Surgical treatment of peri-implantitis:

- Adjunctive and alternative measures for implant surface decontamination following non-reconstructive therapy (7 RCTs (8 publications) [18, 61–67]);
- Adjunctive and alternative measures for implant surface decontamination following reconstructive therapy (1 RCT [68] and 1 CCT [69]);
- Alternative and adjunctive measures for implant surface decontamination following combined therapy (2 RCTs [19, 70]);
- Adjunctive implantoplasty following non-reconstructive therapy (2 RCTs (3 publications) [71–73]);
- Adjunctive local and systemic antibiotics following non-reconstructive therapy (3 RCTs (4 publications) [18, 61, 64, 74]);
- Reconstructive therapy versus non-reconstructive surgery (6 RCTs (7 publications) [75–81]);

Reconstruction of the defect with different bone fillers, with and without a membrane (4 RCTs (5 publications) [82–86] and 3 CCTs (5 publications) [87–91].

#### Non-surgical treatment of peri-implant mucositis

The details regarding peri-implant mucositis definitions, non-surgical treatment protocols, and supportive peri-implant therapy are presented in Table 1. The follow-up periods in the included studies were 3 months (9 studies), 4.5 to 8 months (6 studies), and 12 months (3 studies).

Marked inconsistencies in case definitions for peri-implant mucositis appeared among the studies.

Specifically, in all but 1 study [27], peri-implant mucositis diagnosis was based on the presence of BOP and/or SUPP, along with a radiographic MBL assessment. Regarding an MBL assessment, a peri-implant mucositis diagnosis was defined via an absence of bone loss compared to the baseline radiograph or via threshold values (i.e.,  $\leq 3$  mm or  $\leq 2$  mm). In 9 studies, peri-implant mucositis diagnosis was supplemented by an assessment of PDs, with the large variations in the applied threshold values.

Three RCTs reported on patients' enrollment into a supportive maintenance program [25, 30, 31, 41]. All treatments implemented for peri-implant mucositis resulted in improved clinical parameters. However, complete disease resolution (i.e., absence of BOP) rarely occurred throughout the short investigation periods (Table 1).

#### Efficacy of interventions

##### *Alternative measures for biofilm removal*

Alternative measures utilized to remove biofilm from contaminated implant surfaces (i.e., air-powder abrasive devices with glycine powder or chitosan brush) showed no beneficial clinical effect in terms of BI/BOP and PD values compared to the control treatment alone (i.e., mechanical debridement) [23–26].

##### *Adjunctive diode laser/aPDT*

In 4 RCTs (5 publications), either antimicrobial photodynamic therapy (aPDT) [27–29] or a diode laser [30, 31] was used in addition to mechanical debridement. Over a 3-month period, adjunctive use of aPDT led to similar treatment outcomes in terms of BOP [27–29] and PD changes [28, 29], while 1 study reported on a higher reduction in PD values for the sites treated with adjunctive aPDT [27]. Similarly, the additional application of a diode laser resulted in similar BOP and PD changes compared to the mechanical treatment alone over 3- and 12-month periods [30, 31].

##### *Adjunctive local antiseptics*

As an adjunct to mechanical debridement, included studies employed either applications of CHX (0.12%) gel [32], a full-mouth disinfection concept utilizing CHX gel and mouth rinse [33, 34], or applications of sodium hypochlorite [35]. Over a 3- to 6-month follow-up period, adjunctive use of the aforementioned local antimicrobials led to similar changes in BOP scores [32, 34, 35] and PD values [33–35] compared to control treatments (i.e., mechanical debridement alone), whereas one study reported on a greater PD reduction following the adjunctive use of local CHX (0.12%) applications [32].

**Table 1** Included studies reporting on peri-implant mucositis treatment

Publication	Design	Population	Case definition	Period	Test	Control	Mean (SD) outcome	Supportive therapy comments
Ji et al. (2014)	RCT, parallel	24 patients Test: 12; mean age: 46.2 years; 50% female Control: 12; mean age: 41.3 years; 67% female 8 patients – diagnosed with periodontitis 33 implants (test: 17, control: 16) Molar/premolar sites 1 implants system (ITI Straumann, Standard Implant, SLA surface)	PD ≥ 4 mm, BOP + no radiographic bone loss compared with baseline (i.e. immediately after prosthesis insertion)	3 months	OHI + mechanical debridement (ultrasonic scaler with carbon fiber tips) + air abrasive device, glycine powder (sites with PD ≥ 4 mm)	OHI + mechanical debridement (ultrasonic scaler with carbon fiber tips)	Subject level BL Test baseline: 1.4 (0.57); 3 months: 1.1 (0.55); $p = 0.150$	During follow-up visits, oral hygiene instructions were reinforced (at 1- and 3-months) Adjunctive air abrasive device with glycine powder appeared to have a limited beneficial effect as compared with mechanical debridement alone

**Table 1** (continued)

Publication	Design	Population	Case definition	Period	Test	Control	Mean (SD) outcome	Supportive therapy/ comments
De Siena et al. (2014)	CCT, parallel	30 patients (15 per group) Test: 9 female; 6 male; mean age: 64.8 (12.5) years; mean cigarettes per day: 3.5 (2.6); Control: 9 female, 6 male; mean age: 63.3 (9.3) years; mean cigarettes per day: 4.3 (2.3); None of the patients were diagnosed with periodontitis	BOP or spontaneous bleeding with local swelling + PD ≤ 3.5 mm + bone loss ≤ 3.0 mm	6 months	OHI + mechanical debridement Teflon curettes, polishing + air abrasive device, glycine powder	OHI + mechanical debridement Teflon curettes, polishing	Implant level BI	OHI were provided at baseline and repeated in each follow-up visit 3 and 6 months after intervention Test: 13 patients did not present bleeding at 6 months; Control: 9 patients did not present bleeding at 6 months Test group showed a significant reduction in PD values
Ritben-Grundström et al. (2015)	RCT, parallel	37 patients Test: 17; mean age: 64.4 (range: 25–85) years; Control: 18; mean age: 64.3 (range: 25–86) years; 5 patients – current smokers (test: 1; control: 4) 37 implants 3 implants systems (Astra Tech Nobel Biocare, Straumann)	PD ≥ 4 mm, BOP + with or without SUPP + bone loss ≤ 2 mm from implant shoulder	12 months	OHI + air abrasive device with glycine powder Repeated treatment at 3 and 6 months	OHI + mechanical debridement (ultrasonic scaler with plastic coated tips) Repeated treatment at 3 and 6 months	Subject level BOP Test baseline: 43.9 (7.3%); 12 months: 12.1 (3.8%; p < 0.005) Control baseline: 53.7 (7.9%); 12 months: 18.6 (6.4%; p < 0.005) No significant difference between the groups Number of diseased sites (PD ≥ 4 mm with BOP / SUPP)	Supragingival maintenance care was provided at months 9 and 12 Both treatment approaches were effective in treating peri-implant mucositis

**Table 1** (continued)

Publication	Design	Population	Case definition	Period	Test	Control	Mean (SD) outcome	Supportive therapy/ comments
Wohlfahrt et al. (2018)	RCT, split-mouth design	11 patients Age: NR Periodontal/smoking status: NR 24 implants (test: 12; control: 12) 3 implant brands (Astra, Nobel, Mark III, Straumann)	BOP + at least one site PD ≥ 4 mm + no perceptible bone loss	6 months	Chitosan brush (BioClean Labrid) with oscillating hand piece for 3 min + saline irrigation	Mechanical debridement (titanium curettes) for 3 min + saline irrigation	Implant level mBOP Test baseline: 1.54 (0.78); 6 months: 0.70 (0.70); Control baseline: 1.35 (0.85); 6 months: 0.74 (0.80); no significant difference between groups	Reduced signs of inflammation were seen in both groups
Javed et al. (2017)	RCT, parallel	54 male patients Test: 28 patients, mean age: 50.6 (0.8) years Control: 26 patients, mean age: 52.5 (0.5) years Nr of implants—NR All patients smokers	PD ≥ 4 mm at least at 30% sites	3 months	Mechanical debridement (plastic curettes + aPDT photosensitizer: phenothiazine chloride (HLLBO)) application for 2 min + light exposure (diode laser 660 nm 10 s.)	Mechanical debridement (plastic curettes)	Subject level BOP Test baseline: 10.2 (1.2%); 3 months: 8.8 (0.2%), p < 0.001; Control baseline: 8.6 (0.8%); 3 months: 6.9 (0.2%), p < 0.001. Between group comparison: p > 0.001. No significant difference between the groups	In smokers, aPDT was more effective in the treatment of peri-implant mucositis compared to mechanical debridement alone

**Table 1** (continued)

Publication	Design	Population	Case definition	Period	Test	Control	Mean (SD) outcome	Supportive therapy/ comments
AlRifay et al. (2018)	RCT	38 male patients Test: 20 patients; mean age: 33.6(3.8) years; 28 implants Control: 18 patients; mean age: 35(2.1) years; 27 implants All patients reported on vaping e-cigarettes	BOP + no bone loss > 2 mm (7 <sup>th</sup> EWON)	3 months	OHI + mechanical debridement + aPDT (photosensitizer: 0.005% Methylene blue) application for 10 s + diode laser irradiation (670 nm) at 150 milliwatts for 1 min	OHI + mechanical debridement	Subject level BOP Test baseline: 14.6 (3.1%), 3 months: 11.7 (0.5%); $p < 0.001$ ; Control baseline: 9.2 (1.0%), 3 months: 7.9 (0.2%); $p < 0.001$ . No significant difference between the groups PD Test baseline: 4.3 (0.8) mm; 3 months: 2.1 (0.3) mm; $p < 0.001$ ; Control baseline: 4.5 (0.9) mm; 3 months: 2.2 (0.5) mm; $p < 0.001$ ; Significantly higher reduction in the test group ( $p < 0.001$ )	aPDT was more effec- tive compared to mechanical debride- ment alone
Aimetti et al. (2019)	RCT, parallel	220 patients Test: 110 patients; mean age: 58 (10.1) years; 78 female; light smok- ers: 14 patients; history of periodon- titis: 54 patients Control: 110 patients; mean age: 56.8(10.2) years; 71 female; light smokers: 20 patients; history of periodontitis: 45 patients 220 implants: 110 test, 110 control	PD ≥ 4 mm + BOP ± supura- tion + no radiographic bone loss beyond bone remod- eling or (in the absence of baseline radiographic data) < 2 mm	3 months	OHI + diode laser application (980-nm 2.5 W 30 s + irrigation with 3% H <sub>2</sub> O <sub>2</sub> 10 s (repeated 3 times) + debridement manual and ultrasonic (titanium-coated Gracey or carbon fiber curettes) + biostim- ulation 60 s at 0.7 W	OHI + debride- ment manual and ultrasonic (titanium-coated Gracey or carbon fiber curettes)	Subject level BOP Test baseline: 48.3 (26.9%), 3 months: 23.3 (23.5), $p < 0.005$ Control baseline: 46.2 (25.6%), 3 months: 26.8 (23.0%); $p < 0.05$ . Inter- group comparison: $p > 0.05$ PD Test baseline: 3.5 (0.7) mm, 3 months: 2.9 (0.6), $p < 0.05$ Control baseline: 3.4 (0.9) mm, 3 months: 3.0 (0.7) mm, $p < 0.05$ . Between-group com- parison: $p > 0.05$	Reinforcement of OHI 1- and 3-months after the treatment and professional implant cleaning and polishing The adjunctive use of diode laser did not yield any statistical significant clinical benefit as compared to mechanical treat- ment alone

**Table 1** (continued)

Publication	Design	Population	Case definition	Period	Test	Control	Mean (SD) outcome	Supportive therapy/ comments	
Mariani et al. 2020 [continuum Almetti et al. (2019)]	RCT, parallel, 3 arm	73 patients Test: 28; mean age: 59.2 (9.3) years; female: 24; history of periodontitis: 12 patients Control: 35; mean age: 62.1(6.8) years; female: 23; history of periodontitis: 13 patients	BOP + no signs of bone loss	12 months	Subject level Test baseline: 63.6 (24.2)% 12 months; Control baseline: 59.5 (25.0)% 12 months; 27.6 (25.5)%, $p < 0.001$ Intergroup comparison: $p > 0.05$	During recalls (3, 6, 12 months after treatment) OHI reinforcement and professional implant cleaning and polishing The adjunctive use of diode laser showed no statistically significant additional beneficial effect in treatment of peri-implant mucositis	Test baseline: 3.6 (0.7) mm, 12 months: 3.1 (0.7), $p < 0.001$ Control baseline: 3.8 (0.6) mm, 12 months: 3.3 (0.6) mm, $p < 0.001$ . Intergroup comparison: $p > 0.05$	Adjunctive apDT to mechanical debridement with titanium curettes and polishing with rubber cups and paste + apDT (photosensitizer: Phenothiazine chloride (HEBO) application for 2 min, light exposure (diode laser 660 nm 10 s) + CHX 0.12% mouthrinse twice daily 2 weeks Test 1 OHI + mechanical debridement with titanium curettes and polishing with rubber cups and paste + apDT (photosensitizer: Phenothiazine chloride (HEBO) application for 2 min, light exposure (diode laser 660 nm 10 s) + CHX 0.12% mouthrinse twice daily 2 weeks Test 2 debridement with titanium curettes and polishing with rubber cups and paste + apDT (apDT (photosensitizer: Phenothiazine chloride (HEBO) application for 2 min, light exposure (diode laser 660 nm 10 s) + CHX 0.12% mouthrinse twice daily 2 weeks + Azithromycin 500 mg (1 <sup>st</sup> day), 150 mg following 2–4 days)	Between-group comparison: $p < 0.001$ . Between-group comparison: $p > 0.05$
Deeb et al. (2020)	RCT, parallel, 3 arm	45 male patients Test 1: 15 patients; mean age: 52.6(0.9) years; Test 2: 15 patients; mean age: 53.8(0.7) years; Control: 15 patients All patients smokers Nr of implants – NRI	BOP + no signs of bone loss	3 months	Subject level Test 1 baseline: 12.3 (4.8)% 3 months: 8.0 (3.7)%; $p < 0.001$ Test 2 baseline: 15.7 (3.9)% 3 months: 10.1 (3.1)%; $p < 0.001$ Control baseline: 13.6 (4.0)% 3 months: 11.8 (4.0); $p < 0.001$ .	OHI + mechanical debridement with titanium curettes and polishing with rubber cups and paste + apDT (photosensitizer: Phenothiazine chloride (HEBO) application for 2 min, light exposure (diode laser 660 nm 10 s) + CHX 0.12% mouthrinse twice daily 2 weeks Test 1 OHI + mechanical debridement with titanium curettes and polishing with rubber cups and paste + apDT (apDT (photosensitizer: Phenothiazine chloride (HEBO) application for 2 min, light exposure (diode laser 660 nm 10 s) + CHX 0.12% mouthrinse twice daily 2 weeks Test 2 debridement with titanium curettes and polishing with rubber cups and paste + apDT (apDT (photosensitizer: Phenothiazine chloride (HEBO) application for 2 min, light exposure (diode laser 660 nm 10 s) + CHX 0.12% mouthrinse twice daily 2 weeks + Azithromycin 500 mg (1 <sup>st</sup> day), 150 mg following 2–4 days)	Between-group comparison: $p > 0.05$ Test 1 baseline: 4.8 (1.0) mm, 3 months: 3.9 (0.9) mm; $p < 0.001$ Test 2 baseline: 4.6 (1.1) mm, 3 months: 3.9 (1.0) mm; $p < 0.001$ Control baseline: 4.5 (0.8) mm, 3 months: 4.1 (1.0); $p < 0.001$ . Between-group comparison: $p > 0.05$		

**Table 1** (continued)

Publication	Design	Population	Case definition	Period	Test	Control	Mean (SD) outcome	Supportive therapy/ comments
<i>Adjunctive/local antiseptic/systemic antibiotic therapy</i>								
Porras et al. (2002)	RCT, parallel	16 patients Mean age: 58.9 (8.4) years (range: 34–76) Smokers excluded Periodontal status – NR 28 implants Test: 16 Control: 12 3 implant types (plasma-sprayed Ti/ cpTi (HA-coated Ti))	Supra- and subgingival plaque + PD ≤ 5 mm BOP + "incipient" radiographic lesion	3 months	OHI + mechanical cleansing (plastic scaler, rubber cups, polishing paste) + local irrigation CHX (0.12%) and topical CHX gel application + 0.12% CHX mouthrinse twice for 10 days	OHI + mechanical cleansing (plastic scaler, rubber cups, polishing paste)	Implant level mSBI and BOP (%) scores: no sign. differences between groups at 1 and 3 months PD values Test: baseline: 3.27 (0.81); 3 months: 2.71 (0.70)mm Control: baseline: 3.48 (0.61); 3 months: 2.55 (0.72) mm Changes in mean PD between test and control groups at 3 months were statistically significant ( $p = 0.035$ )	The addition of CHX to mechanical debridement did not enhance the outcomes as com- pared to mechanical debridement alone
<i>Thöne-Mühlung et al. (2010)</i>								
Thöne-Mühlung et al. (2010)	RCT, parallel	11 patients with treated chronic periodontitis Mean age: 51.5 years (range: 37–67) Smokers included 36 implants Test: 22 Control: 14 2 implant types (MK ii; Nobel Biocare and Osseotite 3i; Implant innov.)	BOP + and/or gingival index (GI) ≥ 1 absence of radiographic bone loss during the last 2 years	8 months	OHI + mechanical cleansing (plastic scaler and polyetheretherketone-coated ultrasonic instruments) + topical CHX gel application once + full mouth disinfection (deep scaling in one session + CHX disinfection of tongue and tonsils + 0.2% CHX mouthrinse 2 × /day and tonsil spraying 1 × /day for 14 days	OHI + mechanical cleansing (plastic scaler and polyetheretherketone-coated ultrasonic instru- ments) + full mouth scaling in one session	Implant level BOP Test baseline: 0.22 (0.11); 8 months: 0.16 (0.09) % Control baseline: 0.17 (0.19); 8 months: 0.17 (0.11) % PD Test baseline: 3.49 (0.78); 8 months: 2.84 (0.64) mm Control baseline: 3.4 (0.62) mm; 8 months: 2.82 (0.59) mm PD reduced signifi- cantly after 8 months compared to baseline (test: $p = 0.033$ ; control: $p = 0.004$ ). No significant difference between the groups ML (recession) Test baseline: 0.21 (0.25) mm; 8 months: 0.35 (0.65) mm; Control baseline: 0.33 (0.42) mm; 8 months: 0.33 (0.44) mm	Both treatments lead to an improvements of the clinical param- eters, but without significant differences between the groups after 8 months

**Table 1** (continued)

Publication	Design	Population	Case definition	Period	Test	Control	Mean (SD) outcome	Supportive therapy/ comments
Hallström et al. (2012)	RCT, parallel	45 patients: 45 implants; 22 test, 23 control Mean age: test 54.6(8.2) years, control 54.6(19.8) years	PD ≥ 4 mm BOP + and/or SUPP + radiographic bone loss ≤ 2 mm	6 months	OHI + mechanical cleansing (titanium curettes + rubber cups + polishing paste) + Azithromycin® 500 mg day 1 and 250 mg days 2–4	OHI + mechanical cleansing (titanium curettes + rubber cups + polishing paste)	Subject level BOP Test baseline: 8.26 (24.4%) 6 months: 27.3 (18.8%) Control baseline: 8.00 (25.0%) 6 months: 47.5 (32.3%)	No short-term differences were found between study groups
Menez et al. (2016)	RCT, parallel	37 patients: 6 male, 31 female. Age range: 33–75 years, mean age: 57.4 years Only non-smokers included Test: 61 implants; control: 58 implants	BOP + PD ≥ 5 mm + no radiographic evidence of bone loss beyond the first two threads of the implants	6 months	OHI + subgingival debridement with plastic cures + CHX (0.12%) mouthrinse used for brushing the dorsum of the tongue for 1 min. + rinsing for 10 s. + subgingival irrigation for 10 min. + CHX mouthrinse (0.12%) every 12 h, 30 min. – 14 days	OHI + subgingival debridement with plastic cures + placebo mouthrinse used for brushing the dorsum of the tongue for 1 min. + rinsing for 10 s. + subgingival irrigation for 10 min. + placebo mouthrinse every 12 h, 30 min. 14 days	Implant level BOP Test baseline: 75.82 (33.98%) 6 months: 45.76 (34.85%), p < 0.001 Control baseline: 67.54 (34.38%) 6 months: 41.08 (41.0%), p < 0.001	Patients were further motivated with respect to oral hygiene habits during the entire period of the study. Use of 12% CHX did was not more effective than placebo

**Table 1** (continued)

Publication	Design	Population	Case definition	Period	Test	Control	Mean (SD) outcome	Supportive therapy/ comments
Iorio-Siciliano et al. (2020)	RCT, parallel	45 patients Smokers included; Patients with ≥ 1 site with BOP + absence of radiographic bone loss compared to previous radiograph	6 months	Amino acid buffered sodium hypochlorite (Perisolv) application + ultrasonic scaler + application of Perisolv repeated 5 times + CHX (0.12%) gel twice daily for 2 weeks	Application of placebo gel + ultrasound scalers + application of placebo gel repeated 5 times + CHX (0.12%) gel twice daily for 2 weeks	Implant level BOP-positive implants Test baseline: 33%; 6 months: 18%; $p < 0.001$	Clinical parameters were recorded at 1, 3 and 6 months following the treatment Test: 110 patients; mean age: 58.1 ± 10.1 years; 78 female; light smokers: 14; history of periodontitis: 54 patients Changes in PD from baseline to 6 months were not statistically significantly different between groups.	
Pena et al. (2019)	RCT, parallel	50 patients, 50 implants Test: 25 patients; mean age: 55.96(10.81) years; 0% smokers; 64% of patients with a history of treated periodontitis Control: 25 patients; mean age: 61.16(10.62) years; 4% smokers; 68% of patients with a history of treated periodontitis	135 days (4.5 months)	BOP ± gingival redness, swelling + no bone loss ( $7^{\text{th}}$ EWOP)	OHI + mechanical debridement (ultrasound titanium tip) + CHX 0.12% mouthrinse twice a day, 2 weeks + after 15 days; probiotic tablets containing two strains of <i>L. reuteri</i> for 1 month	OHI + mechanical debridement (ultrasound titanium tip) + CHX 0.12% mouthrinse twice a day 2 weeks + after 15 days: placebo tablets	Subject level BOP Test baseline: 100%; 135 days: 64% Control baseline: 100%; 135 days: 60%; Between group comparison: $p = 0.771$ PD Test baseline: 3.10 (0.74) mm, 135 days: 2.88 (0.62) mm; Control baseline: 3.32 (0.65) mm, 135 days: 2.98 (0.60) mm; Intergroup comparison: $p = 0.59$	

**Table 1** (continued)

Publication	Design	Population	Case definition	Period	Test	Control	Mean (SD) outcome	Supportive therapy/ comments
Gallofie et al. (2018)	RCT, parallel	22 patients with history of periodontitis; 22 implants Test: 11 patient; mean age: 61.5(10.4) years; 27% female Control: 11 patients; mean age: 60(0.95) years; 45% female	Inflamed mucosa with BOP and/or suppuration and no evidence of radiographic bone loss (8 <sup>th</sup> EWOP)	3 months	Mechanical debridement (ultrasound with carbon tip and titanium curettes) + 30 probiotic lozenges (once a day, 30 days) ( <i>L. reuteri</i> , PerioBalance)	Mechanical debridement (ultrasound with carbon tip and titanium curettes) + 30 placebo lozenges (once a day, 30 days)	Subject level BOP Test baseline: 0.61 (0.27)%; 3 months: 0.29 (0.09)%; $p=0.01$ Control baseline: 0.42 (0.18)%; 3 months: 0.35 (0.22)%; $p=0.377$	During the study period patients received neither oral hygiene instructions nor any other mechanical peri-odontal treatment. Administration of probiotics together with mechanical debridement improved clinical parameters at peri-implant mucositis sites
Pucin et al. (2019)	RCT, parallel	46 patients, 54 implants Untreated or recurrent periodontitis patients excluded Test: 24 patients; 27 implants; mean age: 61.3(8.9) years; smokers: 7(46); 11 female; 6 patients with systemic diseases Control: 22 patients; 27 implants; mean age: 61.0(12.0) years; smokers: 14(8%); 14 female; 4 patients with systemic diseases	BOP and/or SUPP without progressive radiographic bone loss	12 months	OHI + mechanical debridement (ultrasound with plastic tip and air-polishing with erythritol) + home care mouthrinse (0.03% CHX + 0.05% cetylpyridinium chloride (CPC)) (twice a day, 30 s.) 12 months	OHI + mechanical debridement (ultrasound with plastic tip and air-polishing with erythritol) + home care placebo mouthrinse (twice a day, 30 s.) 12 months	Implant level BOP Test baseline: 58.64 (27.49)%; 12 months: 10.42 (13.74)% Control baseline: 46.30 (24.17)%; 12 months: 14.39 (18.04)%	The use of test mouthrinse demonstrated some adjunctive benefits. Complete disease resolution could not be achieved in every case Between group comparison: $p=0.094$

**Table 1** (continued)

Publication	Design	Population	Case definition	Period	Test	Control	Mean (SD) outcome	Supportive therapy comments
Bunk et al. (2020)	RCT, parallel, three-arm	60 patients/60 implants Test 1: 20 Test 2: 20 Control: 20 Periodontally healthy Smokers excluded	BOP and/or SUPP + absence of radiographic bone loss compared to previous examination, visual signs of inflammation (modified gingival index $\geq 0$ )	3 months	Test 1 OHI + mechanical debridement (titanium curettes + polishing with low-abrasive paste) + home use of oral irrigator (Waterpick) with water once a day, 3 months Test 2 OHI + mechanical debridement (titanium curettes + polishing with low-abrasive paste) + home use of oral irrigator (Waterpick) with 0.06% CHX solution once a day, 3 months	OHI + mechanical debridement (titanium curettes + polishing with low-abrasive paste)	Subject level BOP-positive sites Test 1 baseline: 2.25 (1.02), 3 months: 0.45 (0.69) Test 2 baseline: 2.40 (0.88), 3 months: 0.10 (0.45) Control baseline: 2.35 (0.99), 3 months: 0.85 (1.09)	All patients returned for follow-up and data collection after 4, 8, 12 weeks. Mechanical debridement was not performed at follow-up visits. The adjunctive use of oral irrigator with 0.06& CHX in addition to mechanical debridement can reduce the presence of peri-implant mucositis After 3 months prevalence of peri-implant mucositis was 5% in Test 2, 35% in Test 1, and 30% in the control group

**Table 1** (continued)

Publication	Design	Population	Case definition	Period	Test	Control	Mean (SD) outcome	Supportive therapy/ comments
Philip et al. (2020)	RCT, Parallel 3-arm	Test 1: 31 patients; 31 implants; 15 female; mean age: 59 (10.6) years; current smokers: 4; 19 implant in maxilla; 12 in mandible Test 2: 30 patients; 30 implants; 14 female; mean age: 62 (9.3) years; current smokers: 2; 19 implant in maxilla; 11 in mandible Control: 28 patients; 28 implants; 12 female; mean age: 65 (10.3) years; current smokers: 3; 20 implant in maxilla; 8 in mandible	BOP and/or suppuration with SUPP progressive radiographic bone loss compared to baseline radiograph	3 months	OHI + ultrasonic scaler with plastic tip + homecare mouthrinse: Test 1: Decapinol mouthrinse consisting (0.2%) delmopinol hydrochloride Test 2: CHX (0.2%)	OHI + ultrasonic scaler with plastic tip + homecare Pla- cebo mouthrinse	Subject level mBI Baseline test 1: 1.0 (0.49); 3 months: 0.13 (0.23) Baseline test 2: 1.03 (0.44); 3 months: 0.28 (0.30) Baseline control: 1.08 (0.52); 3 months: 0.19 (0.32); statistically significant reduction compared to baseline ( $p=0.001$ ); between-group comparison: $p=0.42$	Supragingival main- tenance care was provided at 1 and 3 months Mechanical debride- ment combined with OHI is effective in treating peri-implant mucositis

RCT randomized clinical trial, OHI oral hygiene instructions, BOP bleeding on probing, *mBOP* modified bleeding on probing index, PD probing depth, SUPP supuration, BI bleeding index, *mBI* modified bleeding index, aPDT antibacterial photodynamic therapy

### **Adjunctive systemic antibiotics**

The potential beneficial effect of adjunctive systemic antibiotic use for peri-implant mucositis treatment was investigated in 2 RCTs [29, 36]. In particular, administration of systemic antibiotics (azithromycin) along with mechanical debridement [36] or in combined with subgingival debridement and aPDT therapy [29] failed to show any beneficial effect upon the changes of BOP and PD values over follow-up periods of 3- to 6-months.

### **Adjunctive probiotics**

Two RCTs investigated the potential benefits of probiotics [37, 38]. Of those, 1 RCT in which probiotics were administered for 15 days following the mechanical treatment failed to detect additional beneficial effects of probiotics in BOP and PD changes compared to the controls [37]. Another RCT pointed to significantly higher BOP reduction following the adjunctive use of probiotics for 30 days compared to the controls, whereas changes in PD values were similar to those obtained in the control group [38].

### **Adjunctive antiseptic home care mouth rinse**

Three RCTs investigated the possible beneficial effect of home care use of cetylpiridinium chloride (CPC) + CHX 0.03% mouth rinse [40], oral irrigator with or without 0.06% CHX [39], or CHX 0.2% mouth rinse compared to 0.2% delmopinol hydrochloride [41]. Although 2 of them found similar BOP and PD changes irrespective of the adjunctive use of home care antibacterial mouth rinse throughout a 3-month follow-up period [40, 41], the remaining RCT indicated significantly higher BOP reduction for the patients in the test group [39].

### **Synthesis of results**

#### **Alternative measures for biofilm removal**

Based on the patient-level analysis, the WMD in PD values were  $-0.33 \text{ mm}$  [ $\text{SE}=0.35$ ;  $p=0.34$ ; 95% CI ( $-1.02$ ,  $0.35$ )], not favoring the use of alternative measures (i.e., air powder abrasive device with glycine powder) for biofilm removal ( $p$  value for heterogeneity:  $0.02$ ,  $I^2=81.5\%$ =substantial heterogeneity) [23, 24] (Fig. 2a). At the implant level, WMD in PD amounted to  $-0.49 \text{ mm}$  [ $\text{SE}=0.17$ ;  $p=0.01$ ; 95% CI ( $-0.82$ ,  $-0.15$ )], thus pointing to no favorable effect of alternative

measures (i.e., air abrasive device with glycine powder and chitosan brush) for biofilm removal compared to mechanical debridement ( $p$  value for heterogeneity:  $0.00$ ,  $I^2=0.0\%$ =low heterogeneity) [23, 26] (Fig. 2b).

#### **Adjunctive aPDT**

The WMD in BOP and PD values were  $-0.85\%$  [ $\text{SE}=0.56$ ;  $p=0.13$ ; 95% CI ( $-1.96$ ,  $0.26$ )] and  $-0.22 \text{ mm}$  [ $\text{SE}=0.26$ ;  $p=0.39$ ; 95% CI ( $-0.72$ ,  $0.28$ )]; unit of analysis: patient], respectively, thus not favoring the adjunctive use of aPDT compared to mechanical debridement alone ( $p$  value for heterogeneity:  $0.013$ ,  $I^2=77\%$ =substantial heterogeneity and  $p=0.747$ ,  $I^2=0.0\%$ =low heterogeneity, respectively) (Fig. 2c and d) [27–29].

#### **Adjunctive local antiseptics**

The WMD in BOP amounted to  $-5.30\%$  [ $\text{SE}=5.04$ ;  $p=0.29$ ; 95% CI ( $-15.06$ ,  $4.57$ )]; unit of analysis: implant], thus not supporting the superiority adjunctive use of local antiseptics (i.e., CHX) along with mechanical debridement (2 RCTs;  $p$  value for heterogeneity:  $0.828$ ,  $I^2=0.0\%$ =low heterogeneity; Fig. 2e) [33, 34]. Based on 4 RCTs, the WMD in PD values was  $-0.23 \text{ mm}$  [ $\text{SE}=0.10$ ;  $p=0.03$ ; 95% CI ( $-0.43$ ,  $-0.03$ )]; unit of analysis: implant], favoring the adjunctive use of local antiseptics (i.e., CHX and sodium hypochlorite;  $p$  value for heterogeneity:  $0.929$ ,  $I^2=0.0\%$ =low heterogeneity; Fig. 2f) [32–35].

#### **Adjunctive probiotics**

According to 2 RCTs, the WMD in PD values amounted to  $-0.22 \text{ mm}$  [ $\text{SE}=0.15$ ;  $p=0.14$ ; 95% CI ( $-0.52$ ,  $0.08$ )]; unit of analysis: implant], suggesting no superiority of probiotics in terms of PD reduction ( $p$  value for heterogeneity:  $0.749$ ,  $I^2=0.0\%$ =low heterogeneity; Fig. 2g) [37, 38].

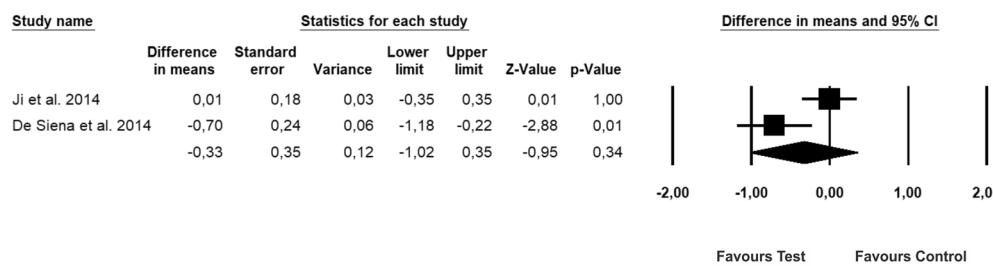
#### **Adjunctive antiseptic home care mouthrinse**

Based on 2 RCTs, the estimated WMD in PD amounted to  $-0.11 \text{ mm}$  [ $\text{SE}=0.12$ ;  $p=0.37$ ; 95% CI ( $-0.33$ ,  $0.12$ )]; unit of analysis: implant), not favoring the use of adjunctive antiseptic home care mouthrinse as an adjunct to mechanical debridement ( $p$  value for heterogeneity:  $0.8$ ,  $I^2=0.0\%$ =low heterogeneity; Fig. 2h) [40, 41].

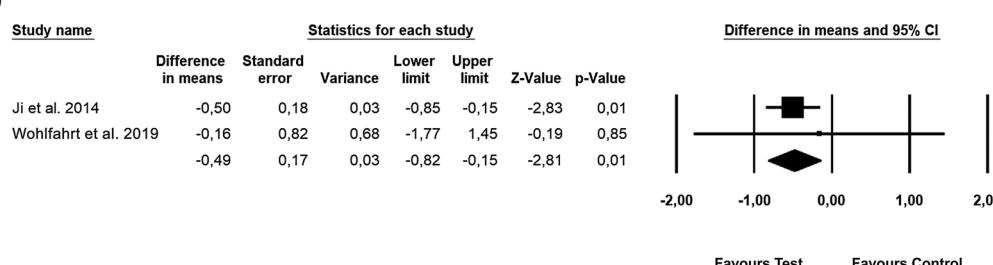
(see figure on next page)

**Fig. 2** Forest plots indicating weighted mean difference (95% CI) in the changes of the assessed treatment outcomes following non-surgical treatment of peri-implant mucositis. **a** Alternative measures for biofilm removal (patient-level analysis)—PD. **b** Alternative measures for biofilm removal (implant-level analysis)—PD. **c** Adjunctive aPDT (patient-level analysis)—BOP. **d** Adjunctive aPDT (patient-level analysis)—PD. **e** Adjunctive local antiseptic therapy (implant-level analysis)—PD. **f** Adjunctive local antiseptic therapy (implant-level analysis)—PD. **g** Adjunctive probiotics (implant-level analysis)—PD. **h** Adjunctive home care mouthrinse (implant-level analysis)—PD

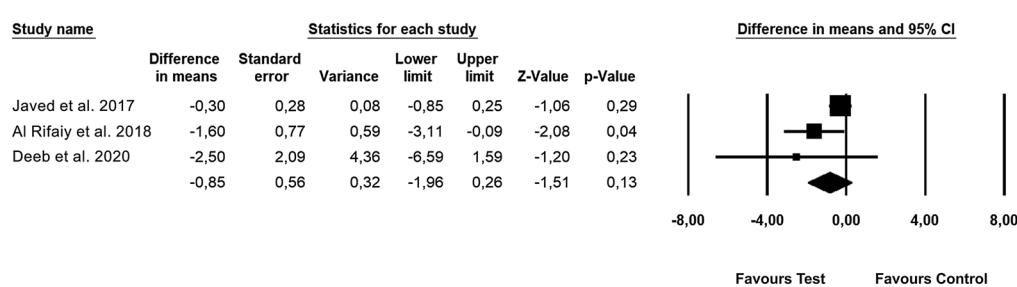
(a)

**Meta Analysis**

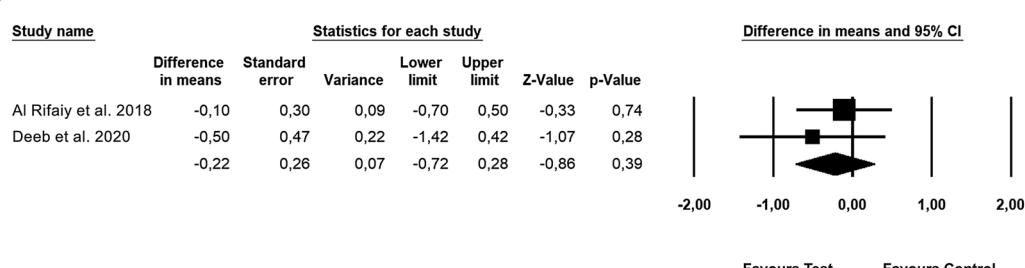
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**Meta Analysis**

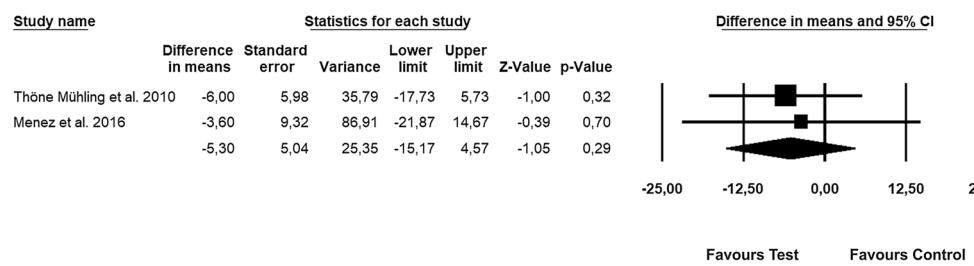
(c)

**Meta Analysis**

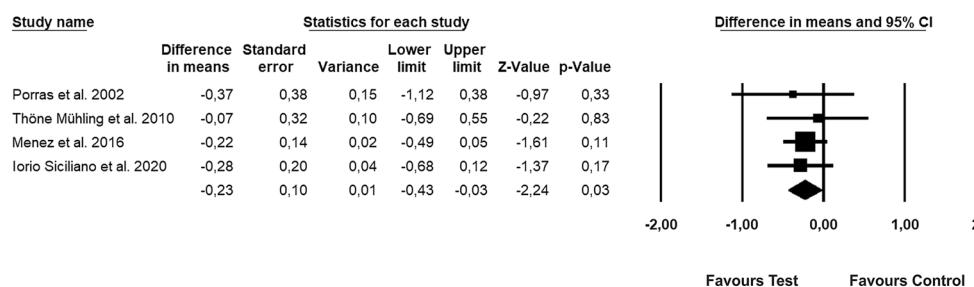
(d)

**Meta Analysis**

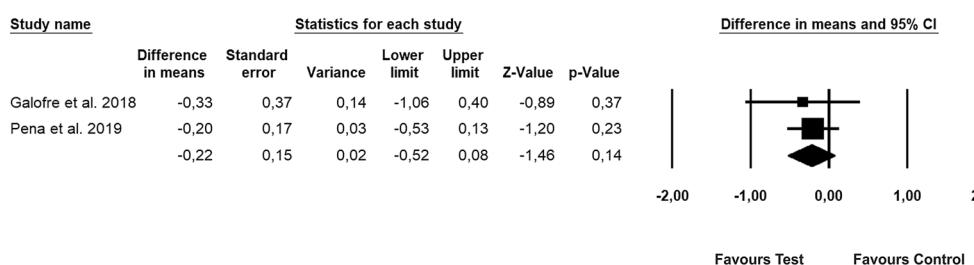
(e)

**Meta Analysis**

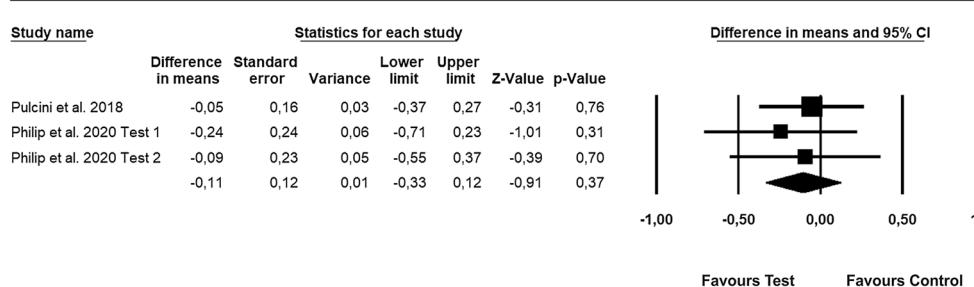
(f)

**Meta Analysis**

(g)

**Meta Analysis**

(h)

**Meta Analysis****Fig. 2** continued

**Table 2** Included studies reporting on non-surgical treatment of peri-implantitis

Publication	Design	Population	Case definition	Period	Test	Control	Mean (SD) outcome	Supportive therapy/ comments
<i>Alternative measures for biofilm/removal</i>								
Schwarz et al. (2005)	RCT, parallel	20 patients Test: 10, mean age: 48 years Control: 10, mean age: 51 years Smokers excluded 32 implants rough and medium-rough surfaces	PD ≥ 4 mm+BOP/SUPP + radiographic bone loss	6 months	OH+Er:YAG laser device (cone-shaped glass fiber tip) at 12.7 J/cm <sup>2</sup>	OH+mechanical debridement (plastic curettes), 0.2% CHX pocket irrigation and 0.2% CHX gel	Subject level BOP Test baseline: 83.2 (17.2)% 6 months: 31.1 (10.1)%; $p < 0.001$ Control baseline: 81.3 (19.0)% 6 months: 58.3 (16.9)%; $p < 0.001$	Er:YAG treatment results in statistically significantly higher reduction of BOP
Between group comparison: $p < 0.001$								
Schwarz et al. (2006)	RCT, parallel	18 patients Test: 10, mean age: 56 (14) years Control: 8, mean age: 54 (11) years Smokers excluded 36 implants rough and medium-rough surfaces	PD ≥ 4 mm+BOP/SUPP + radiographic bone loss	12 months	OH+Er:YAG laser device (cone-shaped glass fiber tip) at 12.7 J/cm <sup>2</sup>	OH+mechanical debridement (plastic curettes), 0.2% CHX pocket irrigation and 0.2% CHX gel	Subject level Moderately deep sites (PD 4–6 mm) BOP Test baseline: 81.7 (6.7)% 12 months: 35.0 (6.3)%; $p < 0.01$ Control baseline: 81.6 (5.2)% 12 months: 33.3 (7.3)% Deep sites Test baseline: 79.9 (4.8)% 12 months: 55.0 (6.5)% Control baseline: 88.3 (3.5)% 12 months: 66.6 (5.5)% Significantly higher reduction in test group ( $p < 0.01$ ) PD (PD > 7 mm) Moderately deep sites Test baseline: 4.5 (1.4) mm, 12 months: 4.0 (0.1) mm Control baseline: 4.4 (0.2) mm, Deep sites Test baseline: 5.5 (0.1) mm, 12 months: 5.4 (0.1) mm Control baseline: 5.9 (0.3) mm. 12 months: 5.5 (0.2) mm No significant differences between groups	Er:YAG treatment results in significantly higher BOP reduction, however, its effectiveness seemed to be limited to a period of 6 months

**Table 2** (continued)

Publication	Design	Population	Case definition	Period	Test	Control	Mean (SD) outcome	Supportive therapy/ comments
Renvert et al. (2009)	RCT, parallel	31 patients Test: 14; mean age: 60.3 (12.9) years; 7 female; 7 male; 2 patients current smokers  Control: 17; mean age: 62.7 (12.1) years; 7 female; 10 male; 3 current smokers; 31 implants machined and medium-rough surfaces	PD ≥ 4 mm + BOP/SUPP + bone loss < 2.5 mm	6 months	OHI + ultrasonic device with hydroxyapatite fluid polish	OHI + mechanical debridement (titanium curettes)	Subject level Bl Test baseline: 1.7 (0.6); 6 months: 1.2 (0.7) Control baseline: 1.7 (0.9); 6 months: 1.4 (1.0) No significant differences between groups	All patients received OHI at all study timepoints No group differences were found in the treatment outcomes
Renvert et al. (2011)	RCT, parallel	42 patients Test: 21; mean age: 68.5 (6.4) years; Control: 21; mean age: 68.9 (12.5) years Smoker included 90 implants machined and medium-rough surfaces	PD ≥ 5 mm, BOP + and/or SUPP + bone loss > 3 mm	6 months	OHI + air abrasive device, glycine powder	OHI + Er:YAG laser device (cone-shaped glass fiber tip, 12.7 J/cm <sup>2</sup> )	Implant level BOP 6 months Test: 25% of implant showed no bleeding Control: 30.9% of implant showed no bleeding Between group comparison: $p=0.22$ PD change Tests: 0.9 (0.8) mm Control: 0.8 (0.5) mm Between group comparison: $p=0.55$	All patients received OHI at all study timepoints The clinical treatment results were limited and similar between the two methods compared with those in cases with severe peri-implantitis

**Table 2** (continued)

Publication	Design	Population	Case definition	Period	Test	Control	Mean (SD) outcome	Supportive therapy/ comments
Sahm et al. 2011; John et al. (2011)	RCT, parallel	Baseline 30 patients Smokers excluded Test: 15 patients, 22 implants Control: 15 patients, 19 implants 8 implant systems 12 months 25 patients Test: 12 patients Control: 13 patients	PD ≥ 4 mm + BOP with SLPP + bone loss ≤ 33%	12 months	OHI + air abrasive device, glycine powder	OHI + mechanical debridement (carbon curettes + 0.1% CHX)	Subject level BOP Test baseline: 99.0 (4.1)%, 12 months: 57.8 (30.7) % Control baseline: 94.7 (13.7)%, 12 months: 78.1 (30.0) % Between group comparison: $p < 0.05$	Supragingival professional implant/tooth cleansing and reinforcement of oral hygiene was performed at each follow-up visit: 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12 and 24 weeks after the treatment Both treatment procedures results in comparable outcomes Between group comparison: $p > 0.05$
Arišan et al. (2015)	CCT, parallel	10 patients Patients with ongoing or history of periodontitis excluded 48 two piece, rough-surface implants	BOP + pain ± SUPP + PD 4–6 mm + marginal bone loss < 3 mm	6 months	Suprastructures removed + mechanical debridement with plastic curette + diode laser (810 nm) 1 min + irrigation with sterile saline solution	Implant level BOP Test baseline: 100%; 6 months: 95.8% Control baseline: 100%; 6 months: 100%	Adjunctive use of diode laser did not yield any additional positive influence compared with conventional scaling Between group comparison: $p > 0.05$	
					PD	Test baseline: 4.71 (0.67) mm, 6 months: 4.54 (0.74) mm Control baseline: 4.38 (0.42) mm, 6 months: 4.17 (0.41) mm	Test baseline: 2.12 (0.47) mm, 6 months: 2.79 (0.48) mm Control baseline: 2.35 (0.56), 6 months: 2.63 (0.53) mm	No statistically significant difference between the groups

**Table 2** (continued)

Publication	Design	Population	Case definition	Period	Test	Control	Mean (SD) outcome	Supportive therapy/ comments
Wang et al. (2019)	RCT, parallel	131 patients Patients with long history of smoking excluded Test: 66; mean age: 42.6 (13.0) years; patients with history of smoking: 21 Control: 65; mean age: 42; mean age: 44.1 (9.8) years; patients with history of smoking: 13	PD ≥ 6 mm + BOP + radiographic bone loss	6 months	OH+full mouth cleansing 2 weeks prior to the therapy + subgingival sand-blast with glycine powder + irrigation with sterile saline + aPDT (toluidine blue photosensitized application for 3 min.) + 19.5° light emitting diode light (LED)	OH+full mouth cleansing 2 weeks prior to the therapy + subgingival sand-blast with glycine powder + irrigation with sterile saline	Subject level SB <sub>1</sub> Grade 1 Control baseline: patients with no bleeding 0%, 6 months: 81.8% Grade 3: Significantly higher reduction in the test group ( $p < 0.001$ ) PD Test baseline: 4.93 (1.07); 6 months: 3.06 (0.29), $p < 0.0001$ Control baseline: 5.07 (0.72); 6 months: 4.62 (0.45), $p < 0.001$ . Significantly higher reduction in the test group ( $p < 0.001$ )	Adjunctive aPDT significantly improved PD and SB <sub>1</sub> values
Adjunctive local antiseptic/antibiotic therapy								
Renvert et al. (2006)	RCT, parallel	32 patients Test: 16; mean age: 65.5 (8.6) years; female: 7; male: 9; present smokers: 5; former smokers: 6 Control: 14; mean age: 61.1 (8.6) years; 11 female: 3 male; present smokers: 3; former smokers: 7 1–5 (test)/1–6 (control) implants per patient machined surfaces	PD ≥ 4 mm + BOP + SUPP + bone loss ≤ 3 threads	12 months	OH+mechanical debridement (scalers+rubber cup+polishing) + 1 mg minocycline microspheres	OH+mechanical debridement (scalers+rubber cup+polishing) + 1.0% CHX gel	Subject level BOP Test baseline: 88 (12%) 12 months: 71 (22%) Control baseline: 86 (14%) 12 months: 78 (13%) No significant difference between the groups PD Test baseline: 3.9 (0.7) mm, 12 months: 3.6 (0.6) mm Control baseline: 3.9 (0.3) mm, 12 months: 3.9 (0.4) mm Significantly higher reduction in the test group ( $p < 0.001$ )	Use of local antibiotics as an adjunct to mechanical treatment of incipient peri-implantitis lesions demonstrated improvements in PD values that were sustained over 12 months
Renvert et al. (2008)	RCT, parallel	32 patients Test: 17; mean age: 60.82 (17.2) years; female: 13; male: 4; present smokers: 2; former smokers: 2 Control: 15; mean age: 62.40 (7.2) years; 9 female, 6 male; present smokers: 5; former smokers: 3 95 implants machined surfaces	PD ≥ 4 mm + BOP + SUPP + bone loss ≤ 3 threads	12 months	OH+mechanical debridement + 1 mg minocycline microspheres Treatment was repeated at days 30 and 90	OH+mechanical debridement + 0.5 ml of 1.0% CHXgel Treatment was repeated at days 30 and 90	Implant level BOP Test baseline: 86.5 (20.1%) 12 months: 48.1 (20.7%) $p < 0.001$ Control baseline: 89.2 (17.2%) 12 months: 63.5 (19.2%) $p < 0.001$ Significantly higher reduction in test group PD Test baseline: 3.85 (1.04) mm, 12 months: 3.55 (0.98) mm, $p < 0.001$ Control baseline: 3.87 (1.16) mm, 12 months: to 3.72 (1.02) mm; $p < 0.001$ No significant difference between the groups RBL Test baseline: 0.77 (0.85) mm, 12 months: 0.7 (0.85) mm; Control baseline: 0.41 (0.7) mm, 12 months: 0.46 (0.76) mm No significant difference between groups	The use of repeated local antibiotics as an adjunct to mechanical treatment of peri-implantitis lesions demonstrated significant improvements in BOP values

**Table 2** (continued)

Publication	Design	Population	Case definition	Period	Test	Control	Mean (SD) outcome	Supportive therapy/ comments
Schär et al. 2012; Basetti et al. (2013)	RCT, parallel	40 patients Test: 20; 10 female; mean age: 59 (range: 27–78); 18 patients with history of peri- odontitis Control: 20; 10 female; mean age: 57 (range: 29–75) Smokers excluded 40 implants medium rough surfaces	PD = 4–6 mm + BOP + bone loss = 0.5–2 mm	12 months	OH+ + mechanical debride- ment (titanium curettes + glycine powder, air polishing, pocket irriga- tion using 3% H <sub>2</sub> O <sub>2</sub> ) + aPTD (660 nm, phenothiazine chloride dye)	OH+ + mechanical debride- ment (titanium curettes + glycine powder, air polishing, pocket irriga- tion using 3% H <sub>2</sub> O <sub>2</sub> ) + minocycline microsphere	Subject level BOP change Control: 65% PD change Test: 0.56 mm Control: 0.11 mm Complete resolution of mucosal inflammation Test: 31.6% Control: 35%	Oral hygiene reinforce- ment at 1,2,3,8 weeks. In the presence of BOP at implant sites after 3 and 6 months, additional treatment procedures equivalent to initial therapy was provided Mechanical debridement with aPTD was equally effective in reducing mucosal inflammation as with adjunctive delivery of local antibiotics
Machtei et al. (2012)	Multicentre RCT, parallel	60 patients 77 implants Test: 30 patients; 40 implants; mean age: 57.42 (10.5) years; 20 female; current smokers: 5; former smokers: 7 Control: 30 patients; 37 implants; mean age: 60.95 (7.9) years; 15 female; current smokers: 5; former smokers: 6	PD = 6–10 mm + BOP + radiographic bone loss	6 months	OH+ + ultrasonic debride- ment + matrix containing 25-mg CHX chips (i.e., up to 4 per implant site) Repeated application at sites with PD ≥ 6 mm at 2, 4, 6, 8, 12 and 18 weeks	Subject level BOP Test baseline: 100 (0.0)%; 6 months: 42.5 (50.0) % Control baseline: 100 (0.0)%; 6 months: 54.5 (50.5) % PD Test baseline: 76 (1.1), 6 months: 5.47 (1.86) mm	At 12 weeks, supragingi- val debridement was performed Treatment in both groups results in a substantial improvement	
Machtei et al. (2020)	Multicentre RCT, parallel	290 patients Test: 146; mean age: 62.5 (11.2) years; female: 91; current smokers: 15; former smokers: 51 Control: 144; mean age: 62.6 (11.6) years; female: 81; current smokers: 14; former smokers: 55 386 implants Test: 197 Control: 189 10 centers	PD 5–8 mm + BOP/SUPP + radi- ographic bone loss at least 3 mm from implant shoulder	6 months	OH+ + subgingival debride- ment at baseline and 3 months + matrix contain- ing 25-mg CHX chips (i.e., up to 2 per implant site) Repeated supragingival plaque removal for 12 weeks every 2 <sup>nd</sup> week	Subject level BOP Test baseline: 100%, 6 months: 50.31% Control baseline: 100%, 6 months: 55.21% PD Test baseline: 6.16 (1.0) mm, 6 months: 4.40 (0.25) mm Control baseline: 6.06 (0.9), 6 months: 4.52 (0.27) mm, 5g- nificantly higher reduction in test group ( $p = 0.01$ )	Test group showed significantly greater improvements in PD values	

**Table 2** (continued)

Publication	Design	Population	Case definition	Period	Test	Control	Mean (SD) outcome	Supportive therapy/ comments
Meril et al. (2020)	RCT, parallel	58 patients with treated periodontitis excluded 58 implants Test 1 (adjunctive desiccant material): 15; mean age: 60.3(10.7) years; female: 12; smokers: 4 Test 2 (adjunctive air-flow): 13; mean age: 66.4(9.4) years; 9 female; 2 smokers Test 3 (air-flow + desiccant material): 14; mean age: 60.3(8.5) years; 10 female; 4 smokers Control: 16; mean age: 64.5(8.3) years; smokers: 3; female: 9	PD 5–8 mm+BOP/SUPP + bone loss beyond initial bone remodeling+ infraboneous defect component (radiographic) ≤ 5 mm + radiographic suprabone component of defect ≤ 4 mm	6 months	OH+ supragingival/supramucosal debridement prior to treatment Removal of prosthetic reconstruction + mechanical debridement with ultrasonic scaler + Test 1: application of desiccant material (gel of concentrated mixture of hydroxybenzenesulphonic acid and hydroxymethoxybenzene acids and sulphuric acid (Hyben-X) in peri-implant pocket for 30 s, followed by saline rinsing Test 2: + air polishing with glycine powder Test 3: Test 2 + Test 1 + 0.12% CHX mouthrinse twice a day, 15 days	OH+ supragingival/supramucosal debridement prior to treatment Removal of prosthetic reconstruction + mechanical debridement with ultrasonic scaler + Control baseline: 3.6 (0.8); 6 months: 2.7 (1.3) Control baseline: 3.3 (0.8); 6 months: 2.9 (0.8)	Subject level BOP (number of sites per implant with bleeding) 1 week, 1 month, 3 and 6 months for maintenance with supragingival prophylaxis Test 1 baseline: 2.9 (1.3); 6 months: 2.5 (1.7) Test 2 baseline: 3.6 (0.8); 6 months: 2.8 (1.3) Test 3 baseline: 3.6 (0.8); 6 months: 2.7 (1.3) Control baseline: 3.3 (0.8); 6 months: 2.9 (0.8)	Patients were seen at 1 week, 1 month, 3 and 6 months for maintenance with supragingival prophylaxis Pocket reduction was more pronounced in groups treated with adjunctive desiccant material No significant difference between groups

**Table 2** (continued)

Publication	Design	Population	Case definition	Period	Test	Control	Mean (SD) outcome	Supportive therapy/ comments
<b>Adjunctive systemic antibiotics</b>								
Gomi et al. (2015)	RCT, parallel	20 patients; 11 female; mean age: 67.6 (5.3) years (range: 55–78) All patients periodontally compromised Smokers excluded	PD > 5 mm + BOP + bone loss > 2 mm	12 months	Azithromycin® 500 mg 3 days before treatment + mechanical full-mouth scaling (implants with plastic curettes and plastic ultrasonic scaler)	Mechanical full-mouth scaling (implants with plastic curettes and plastic ultrasonic scaler)	Subject level BOP 6 months: 4.4 (0.3)% Control baseline: 25.7 (4.3)%, 6 months: 19.8 (5.7)%;  Between group comparison: $p < 0.001$	All clinical parameters showed better improvements in test group
Shibli et al. (2019)	CCT, parallel	40 patients; 29 female; mean age: 58.5 (1.1) years Current smokers excluded	PD > 5 mm + bone loss > 4 mm + BOP	12 months	Mechanical debridement with teflon curettes + metronidazole 400 mg and amoxicillin 500 mg three times a day, 14 days	Mechanical debridement with teflon curettes	Subject level BOP Test baseline: 90.0 (31.6)%; 12 months: 39.0 (48.8%), $p < 0.05$ Control baseline: 97.0 (34.5)%; 12 months: 50.0 (53.5%); $p < 0.05$ ;  Between group comparison: $p > 0.05$	Periodontal supragingival maintenance therapy every 3 months Addition of systemic antibiotics to the mechanical treatment of severe perimplantitis did not improve clinical outcomes
<b>Adjunctive probiotics</b>								
Tada et al. (2017)	RCT, parallel	30 patients Test: 15; mean age: 68.80 (7.46) years; 3 smokers Control: 15; mean age: 65.87 (8.84) years; 1 smokers	PD > 4 mm and < 7 mm + BOP/ SUPP + bone loss > 2 mm	6 months	OHII + supragingival scaling + Azithromycin® 500 mg once a day for 3 days + after 1 week probiotic tablets ( <i>L. reuteri</i> two strains; ProDentis) once a day for 6 months	OHII + supragingival scaling + Azithromycin® 500 mg once a day for 3 days	Subject level mBI Test baseline: 3.20 (1.26), 6 months: 1.53 (1.41), $p = 0.235$ Control baseline: 7.6 (1.8) mm, 6 months: 3.8 (1.6), $p < 0.05$ ;  PD Test baseline: 3.90 (0.60), 6 months: 3.21 (0.84), $p = 0.033$ Control baseline: 4.04 (1.14) mm, 6 months: 3.47 (0.95) mm, $p = 1$	PDs were significantly reduced only in test group

**Table 2** (continued)

Publication	Design	Population	Case definition	Period	Test	Control	Mean (SD) outcome	Supportive therapy/ comments
Laleman et al. (2019)	RCT, parallel	19 patients Smokers and patients with uncontrolled periodontitis excluded Test: 9; 4 female; mean age: 64 (11) Control: 10; 6 female; mean age: 69 (89)	PD ≥ 4 mm + BOP + bone loss at least 1 mm compared to the baseline	6 months	OH+ + mechanical debridement titanium curettes + scaler + Air polishing + topical application of probiotic drops containing L. reuteri two stains + probiotic tablets (Biocal) for 6 months	OH+ + mechanical debridement titanium curettes + scaler + Air polishing + topical application of placebo drops + placebo tablets for 6 months	Subject level BOP (number of bleeding sites pro implants 0 to 6) test baseline: 87 (23)% 6 months: 59 (32), $p < 0.01$ Control baseline: 87 (22), 6 months: 53 (39), $p < 0.01$ $p = 0.876$	No adjunctive effects of the use of <i>L. reuteri</i> probiotics were found

RCT randomized clinical trial, OH+ chlorhexidine digluconate, OH/ oral hygiene instructions, BOP bleeding on probing, PD probing depth, SUPP suppuration, BI bleeding index, mBI modified bleeding index, RBL radiographic bone level, RDF radiographic bone defect fill, ML soft tissue level, H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> hydrogen peroxide, aPDT antibacterial photodynamic therapy

### **Non-surgical treatment of peri-implantitis**

Peri-implantitis definitions, non-surgical treatment protocols, and supportive peri-implant therapies are addressed in Table 2. The follow-up periods in the included studies were either 6 months (10 studies) or 12 months (7 studies).

Definitions of peri-implantitis varied widely among the included studies. All studies defined peri-implantitis as the presence of BOP and/or SUPP and radiographic MBL. The reference points (i.e., baseline radiographs) and threshold values used to identify MBL were either not specified [42, 43, 48, 54] or exhibited large variations [44–47, 49–53, 55–60].

In four RCT's patients were enrolled into a regular maintenance program following the treatment [44–47, 58]. Although the investigated clinical parameters tended to improve significantly 6 to 12 months after the implemented non-surgical interventions, the treated sites were frequently associated with residual BI and/or BOP scores.

### **Efficacy of interventions**

#### **Alternative measures for biofilm removal**

As an alternative to mechanical debridement, Er:YAG laser [42, 43], ultrasonic devices [44], and air-powder abrasive devices with glycine powder [45–47] were utilized to remove biofilm from contaminated implant surfaces. While the use of Er:YAG laser [42, 43] and an air-powered abrasive device with glycine powder [46, 47] led to significant improvements in BOP scores compared to mechanical debridement, the aforementioned alternative measures had no beneficial effect upon the changes in PD values. The use of an ultrasonic device failed to improve clinical treatment outcomes in terms of changes in BOP and PD when compared to mechanical debridement alone [44].

#### **Adjunctive diode laser/aPDT**

As an adjunct to mechanical therapy, the use of a diode laser resulted in comparable outcomes (i.e., BOP and PD changes) to the control group [49], whereas adjunctive aPDT therapy led to significantly higher PD and SBI reduction over a 6-month period compared to the control treatment (i.e., mechanical debridement) [48].

#### **Adjunctive local antiseptics/antibiotics**

In addition to mechanical debridement, application of local antibiotics (i.e., single [50, 52, 53] or repeated applications of minocycline microspheres [51]), CHX 1.0% gel (single [50] or repeated [51]), repeated application of CHX-containing chips [54, 55], or single subgingival placement of desiccant material [56] were investigated. Single application of minocycline microspheres in initial peri-implantitis cases (i.e., bone loss  $\leq 3$  mm) led to

significantly higher PD reduction and comparable BOP changes [50], while repeated applications, on a contrary, yielded significantly greater BOP reduction, but similar PD changes [51] compared to the control sites (i.e., sites treated with mechanical debridement along with CHX 1.0% gel applications). Two RCTs reported similar changes in BOP values, but significantly higher PD improvements at implant sites treated with repeated CHX chips or single desiccant material application compared to placebo over 6 months [55, 56]. One study, however, failed to demonstrate any clinical beneficial effect in terms of BOP and PD changes of CHX chips over a 6-month period compared to the placebo group [54].

#### **Adjunctive systemic antibiotics**

Two RCTs investigated the potential benefits of the administration of systemic antibiotics along with mechanical debridement [57, 58]. Based on one RCT, prescribed systemic antibiotics (azithromycin 500 mg 3 day prior to treatment) along with mechanical debridement resulted in significant BOP and PD reduction (peri-implantitis definition: BO  $p + PD > 5$  mm + bone loss  $> 2$  mm) [57], whereas another RCT observed no beneficial effects of a combination of metronidazole 400 mg and amoxicillin 500 mg for BOP and PD changes in severe cases of peri-implantitis (i.e., BO  $p + PD > 5$  mm + bone loss  $> 4$  mm) [58].

#### **Adjunctive probiotics**

Contradictory findings were reported by 2 RCTs that evaluated the effects of the adjunctive use of probiotics for 6 months [59, 60]. In particular, one analysis failed to reveal any benefits of the adjunctive use of probiotic tablets and single local applications of probiotic drops upon the BOP and PD changes [60], whereas another RCT found similar BOP changes, but significant improvements in PD values following mechanical debridement along with systemic antibiotics in patients who also took probiotics for 6 months [59].

### **Synthesis of results**

#### **Alternative measures for biofilm removal**

According to 3 RCTs, the WMD in BOP was  $-28.09\%$  [SE = 3.74;  $p = 0.01$ ; 95% CI ( $-35.43, -20.76$ ); unit of analysis: patient] in favor of alternative measures for biofilm removal (i.e., Er: YAG laser, air-powder abrasive device with glycine powder;  $p$  value for heterogeneity: 0.95,  $I^2 = 0.0\%$  = low heterogeneity) [42, 43, 47] (Fig. 3a). The WMD in PD values was  $-0.27$  mm [SE = 0.21;  $p = 0.19$ ; 95% CI ( $-0.68, 0.13$ )]; unit of analysis: patient), thus not favoring the alternative measures used for biofilm removal (i.e., Er: YAG laser, air-powder abrasive device with glycine powder, ultrasonic device) as an

adjunct to mechanical debridement ( $p$  value for heterogeneity: 0.938,  $I^2=0.0\%$ =low heterogeneity) (5 RCTs) [42–44, 47, 56] (Fig. 3b).

Based on 2 RCTs, the WMD in ML was  $-0.21$  mm [ $SE=0.34$ ;  $p=0.55$ ; 95% CI ( $-0.87$ ,  $0.46$ )]; unit of analysis: patient], suggesting no superiority of alternative measures for biofilm removal ( $p$  value for heterogeneity: 0.026,  $I^2=80\%$ =substantial heterogeneity) [42, 47] (Fig. 3c).

#### **Adjunctive local antiseptics/antibiotics**

Based on 3 studies, the estimated WMD in BOP values was  $-10.65\%$  [ $SE=5.63$ ;  $p=0.06$ ; 95% CI ( $-21.69$ ,  $0.38$ )] (unit of analysis: patient), pointing to no beneficial effect of the local use of adjunctive antibiotics (i.e., minocycline microspheres) and local antiseptic (i.e., CHX) compared with mechanical debridement alone ( $p$  value for heterogeneity: 0.962,  $I^2=0.0\%$ =low heterogeneity; Fig. 3d) [50, 51, 54]. Based on 4 RCTs, the WMD in PD amounted to  $-0.25$  mm [ $SE=0.18$ ;  $p=0.16$ ; 95% CI ( $-0.60$ ,  $0.10$ )]; unit of analysis: patient], with adjunctive local antiseptic/antibiotic therapy not yielding higher PD reduction ( $p$  value for heterogeneity: 0.988,  $I^2=0.0\%$ =low heterogeneity; Fig. 3e) [50, 51, 54, 56]. The estimated WMD in ML was  $-0.11$  mm [ $SE=0.09$ ;  $p=0.22$ ; 95% CI ( $-0.29$ ,  $0.07$ )]; unit of analysis: patient], thus indicating that the adjunctive local application of antiseptics did not lead to superior soft-tissue levels compared to mechanical debridement alone ( $p$  value for heterogeneity: 0.988,  $I^2=0.0\%$ =low heterogeneity; Fig. 3f) [55, 56].

#### **Adjunctive systemic antibiotics**

Based on 2 RCTs with 12 months of follow-up, the WMD in BOP and PD amounted to  $-17.35\%$  [ $SE=2.56$ ;  $p=0.01$ ; 95% CI ( $-22.37$ ,  $-12.32$ )]; unit of analysis: patient) and  $-1.46$  mm [ $SE=0.35$ ;  $p=0.01$ ; 95% CI ( $-2.15$ ,  $-0.77$ )]; unit of analysis: patient), thus supporting the favorable effect of adjunctive systemic antibiotics following mechanical debridement ( $p$  value for heterogeneity: 0.474,  $I^2=0.0\%$  and  $p=0.562$ ,  $I^2=0.0\%$ =low heterogeneity, Fig. 3g and h) [57, 58].

#### **Adjunctive probiotics**

The WMD in PD values was  $-0.15$  mm [ $SE=0.16$ ;  $p=0.35$ ; 95% CI ( $-0.47$ ,  $0.17$ )]; unit of analysis: patient),

not favoring adjunctive probiotics compared to mechanical debridement alone (2 RCTs) ( $p$  value for heterogeneity: 0.719,  $I^2=0.0\%$ =low heterogeneity, Fig. 3i) [59, 60].

#### **Surgical treatment of peri-implantitis**

Ten RCTs (12 publications) reported on the non-reconstructive surgical treatment of peri-implantitis [18, 61–67, 71–74] and 9 studies (13 publications) reported on the surgical treatment of peri-implantitis employing adjunctive reconstructive measures (4 CCTs [69, 87–91], 5 RCTs [68, 82–86, 92]). The remaining 6 RCTs (7 publications) compared reconstructive peri-implantitis treatment over non-reconstructive approach [75–81, 93] and 2 RCTs (5 publications) reported on combined peri-implantitis therapy (i.e., implantoplasty+reconstructive therapy) (2 RCTs (5 publications) [19, 70, 94–96]) (Table 3).

Follow-up periods among the included studies varied from 6 months (6 studies), 1 year (12 studies), 3 to 4 years (4 studies), to 5 and 7 years (5 studies). Peri-implantitis was commonly defined by the presence of BOP/SUPP and a presence of radiographic bone loss, with the threshold values of  $\geq 2$  mm or  $> 3$  mm being most frequently used. In fact, the majority of the studies (13 studies) reporting on reconstructive and combined peri-implantitis therapy indicated the presence of intrabony peri-implant defect configuration (Table 3). Twenty studies (29 publications) reported on patient engagement into a regular supportive therapy following the surgery [18, 19, 61, 63–68, 71, 74, 76–78, 80–87, 89–92, 94–96].

#### **Efficacy of interventions**

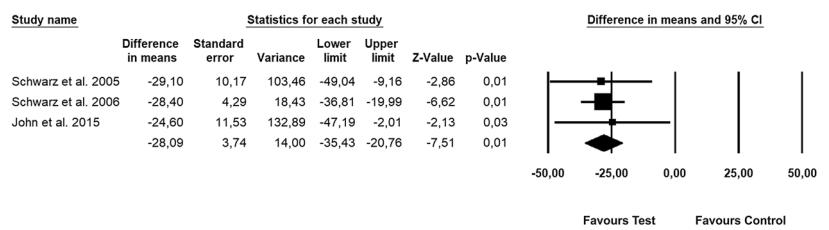
##### **Adjunctive and alternative measures for implant surface decontamination following non-reconstructive treatment**

Over the 6-month follow-up period, alternative measures for implant surface decontamination, including a titanium brush and an air-powder abrasive with glycine powder, were more effective in reducing signs of inflammation, as shown by a higher reduction in BOP and PD values over the implant sites treated with the conventional decontamination method (i.e., plastic curettes) [67]. Furthermore, sites treated with a titanium brush revealed significant improvements in marginal bone levels compared to the implants treated with either an

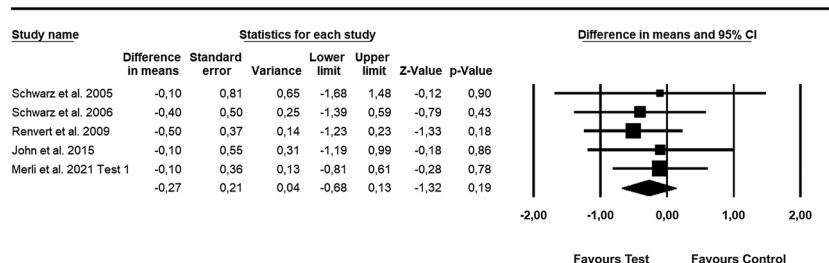
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**Fig. 3** Forest plot indicating weighted mean difference (95% CI) in the reduction of assessed treatment outcomes following non-surgical treatment of peri-implantitis. **a** Alternative measures for biofilm removal (patient-level analysis)—BOP. **b** Alternative measures for biofilm removal (patient-level analysis)—PD. **c** Alternative measures for biofilm removal (patient-level analysis)—ML. **d** Adjunctive local antiseptic/antibiotic therapy (patient-level analysis)—PD. **e** Adjunctive local antiseptic/antibiotic therapy (patient-level analysis)—ML. **f** Adjunctive systemic antibiotics (patient-level analysis)—BOP. **g** Adjunctive systemic antibiotics (patient-level analysis)—PD. **h** Adjunctive systemic antibiotics (patient-level analysis)—PD. **i** Adjunctive probiotics (patient-level analysis)—PD

(a)

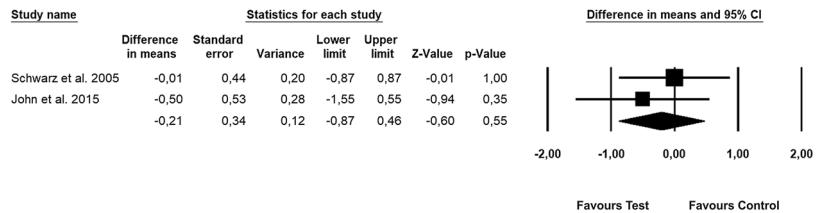


(b)



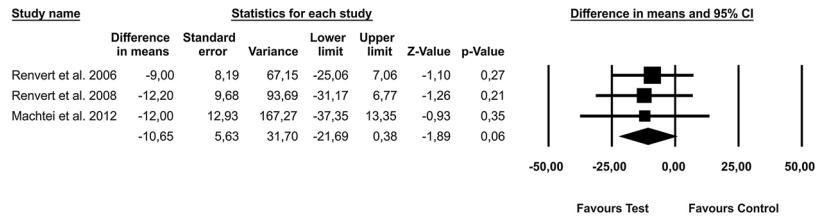
Meta Analysis

(c)



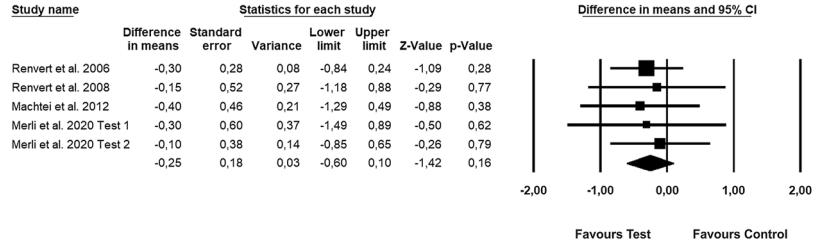
Meta Analysis

(d)

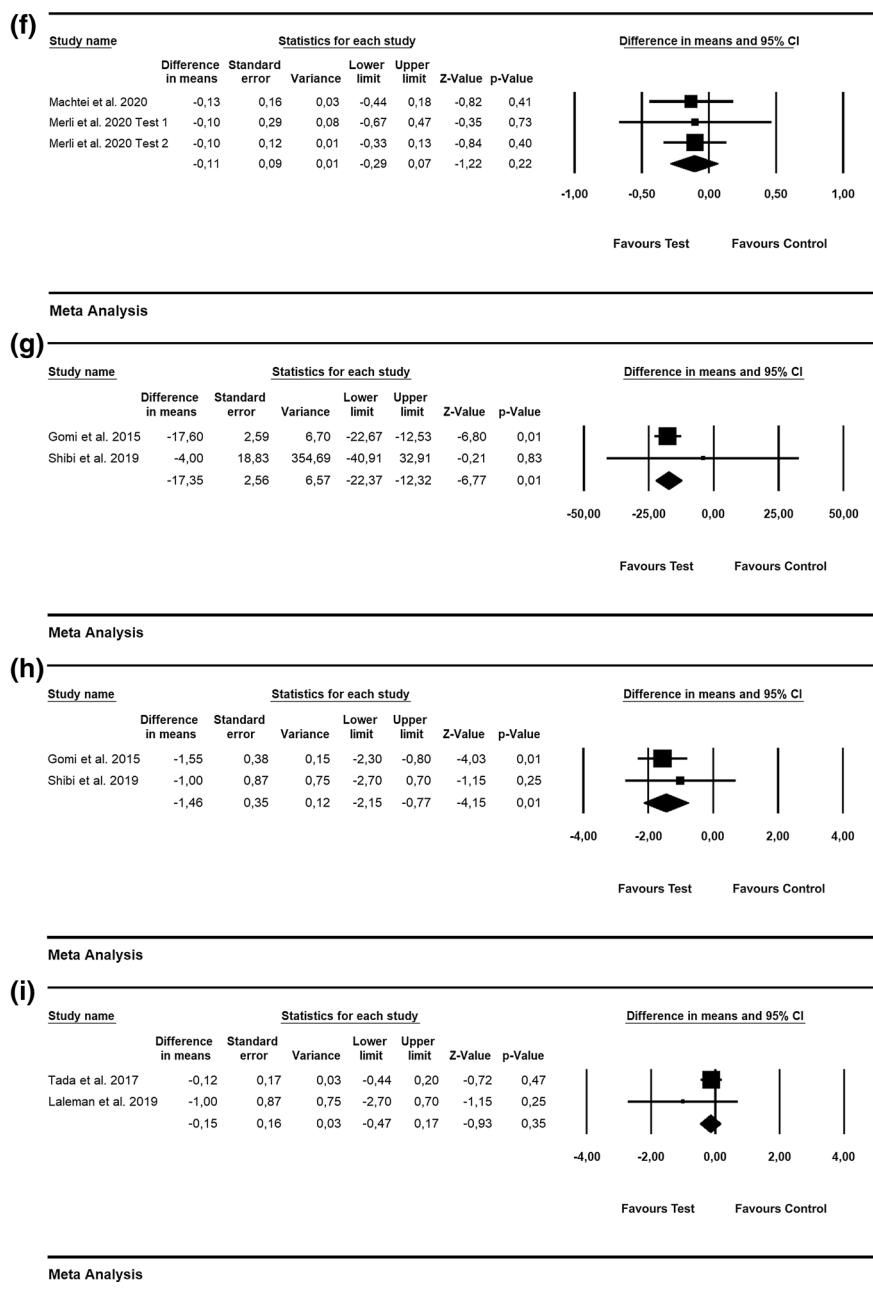


Meta Analysis

(e)



Meta Analysis

**Fig. 3** continued

air powder abrasive device or plastic curettes (i.e., control group). Nonetheless, as addressed by the authors, treatment success (i.e., PD  $\leq$  5 mm, no BOP, no bone loss  $\geq$  5 mm) was rarely obtained irrespective of the decontamination protocol (i.e., plastic curettes: 22% of implants; air-powder abrasive: 33% of implants; titanium brush: 33% of implants) [67].

Based on 2 RCTs, the adjunctive use of either a PDT or diode laser failed to reveal any beneficial clinical effect with respect to BOP and PD changes throughout the 6-month period [62, 63]. Three RCTs investigated the additional use of 0.2% CHX solution for implant surface decontamination [18, 61], and adjunctive decontamination using 0.12% CHX + 0.05% cetylpiridinium chloride (CPC) versus placebo [65], or 0.12% CHX + 0.05%

CPC versus 2.0% CHX [66]. Over 1- to 3-year follow-up periods, the adjunctive use of the aforementioned antimicrobials as a part of implant surface decontamination protocol did not lead to improved clinical (i.e., BOP and PD) or radiographic outcomes compared with the respective controls [18, 61, 65, 66].

#### ***Adjunctive implantoplasty following non-reconstructive treatment***

Two RCTs (3 publications) assessed the clinical efficacy of implantoplasty used as an adjunct to non-reconstructive therapy [71–73]. In particular, data from a 6-month RCT pointed to no differences in clinical (i.e., BOP and PD changes) and radiographic parameters between implant sites treated with either implantoplasty or air polishing with glycine powder [71]. A 3-year RCT, contrarily, indicated that adjunctive implantoplasty enhanced implant survival rates, significantly reduced PDs, SUPP, and BI, and was associated with stable marginal bone levels compared to the control sites, where bone loss amounted to 1.45–1.54 mm [72]. However, sites treated with implantoplasty resulted in significantly more soft tissue recession (test group: 2.3 [1.45] mm, control group: 1.64 [1.29] mm) [72, 73] (Table 3).

#### ***Adjunctive local and systemic antibiotics following non-reconstructive treatment***

Based on 1 RCT, the repeated local applications of antibiotics (i.e., minocycline ointment 1, 3 and 6 months post-operatively) lead to significant benefits in terms of greater mean PD reduction and radiographic marginal bone levels compared to the control implant sites (i.e., mechanical debridement and air-powder polishing), while changes in BOP/SUPP were comparable between test and control groups [64].

Two RCTs investigated the potential beneficial effect of systemic antibiotics following non-reconstructive peri-implantitis treatment [18, 61, 74]. Specifically, over a 1-year period, the adjunctive administration of post-operative systemic antibiotics lead to similar clinical (i.e., changes in BOP and PD), radiographic (i.e., RBL) or microbiological treatment outcomes compared to the control group [74]. Based on the results of another RCT, a positive effect of systemic antibiotics on the success of treatment (i.e.,  $PD \leq 5$  mm, no BOP/SUPP, bone loss  $\leq 0.5$  mm) during a 1-year period was observed only for implants with modified surface characteristics [61]. The benefits of the systemic antibiotic regimen, however, did not last through the 3-year follow-up, leading to similar changes in BOP, SUPP, PD and RBL values [18].

#### ***Adjunctive and alternative measures for implant surface decontamination following reconstructive therapy***

Adjunctive use of ozone therapy for implants as part of implant surface decontamination protocol along with reconstructive peri-implantitis treatment over a 1-year period resulted in significantly greater peri-implant bone defect fill compared to decontamination with sterile saline solution (2.32 mm vs. 1.17 mm, respectively), whereas clinical outcomes (i.e., changes in BOP and PD) were comparable between test and control groups [68]. After 5 years of follow-up period, adjunctive application of  $CO_2$  laser provided similar clinical (i.e., changes in BOP and PD) and radiographic treatment outcomes to the conventional decontamination approach (i.e., air polishing) [69].

#### ***Adjunctive and alternative measures for implant surface decontamination following combined therapy***

Use of a titanium brush as an adjunct treatment to surface decontamination protocol (i.e., debridement with ultrasonic scaler + rinsing with  $H_2O_2$  3%) after 1 year resulted in significantly greater PD reduction compared to control implant sites, while BOP changes were similar in both treatment groups [70]. After 7 years of follow-up, implant surface decontamination by means of Er:YAG monotherapy following combined peri-implantitis therapy led to similar BOP and PD changes as to implant sites where conventional decontamination protocols were used (i.e., mechanical debridement + saline-soaked cotton gauze) [19] (Table 3).

#### ***Reconstruction of peri-implant bone defects with different bone fillers***

After 12 months of healing, significantly higher RDF and mean PD reduction were obtained at peri-implantitis defects filled with xenogenic bone filler particles in comparison with autogenous bone, whereas BOP changes were similar for both reconstruction approaches [82]. In comparison with synthetic bone filler (i.e., nanocrystalline hydroxyapatite particles), the use of a bovine-derived xenograft after 4 years led to significantly greater BOP and PD improvements [83]. Increased RDF and higher BOP reduction were detected at implants treated with porous titanium granules compared with xenograft, whereas PD reduction and clinical attachment changes did not differ between the treatment groups [88]. The comparison of the 2 xenograft materials over a 12-month period led to similar treatment outcomes as depicted by similar changes in the BOP, PD, and RDF values, as well as the treatment success (defined as  $PD \leq 5$  mm + no BOP/SUPP + no further bone loss) [86].

**Table 3** Included studies reporting on surgical peri-implantitis treatment

Publication	Design	Population	Case definition	Period	Test	Control	Mean (SD) outcome	Supportive therapy/ comments
a) Non-reconstructive surgery								
Papadopoulos et al. (2015)	RCT, parallel	16 patients 12 females and 7 males. Mean age: 55 years (8.7 range: 40–73) 16 implants	BOP/SUPP on probing + PD ≥ 6 mm and bone loss ≥ 2 mm	6 months	Mechanical debridement with plastic curettes + use of cotton swabs soaked in saline solution + use of a diode laser (low-power 980 nm)	Control: Mechanical debridement with plastic curettes + use of cotton pellets soaked in saline solution	Subject level: Test baseline: 81.2%; 6 months: 23.8%; Control baseline: 93.8%; 6 months: 31.3% Significant reduction compared to the baseline ( $p < 0.05$ ) No significant difference between groups ( $p > 0.05$ ) PD Test baseline: 5.92 mm; 6 months: 4.44 mm Control baseline: 5.52 mm; 6 months: 4.31 Significant reduction compared to the baseline ( $p < 0.05$ ) No significant difference between groups ( $p > 0.05$ )	Additional use of diode laser does not seem to have an extra beneficiary effect
Hallstrom et al. (2017)								
	RCT, parallel	31 patients Test: 15; mean age: 68.8 (25.0) years; female 75%; current smokers: 40%; tooth loss due to periodontitis: 47% Control: 16; mean age: 71 (7.7) years; female 63%; current smokers: 21%; tooth loss due to periodontitis: 53% 31 implants Test: 15 Control: 16	BOP/SUPP on probing + PD ≥ 5 mm and bone loss ≥ 2 mm	12 months	OH+ + mechanical debridement with curettes and cotton pellets soaked in saline saline + post-operative systemic antibiotics – Zithromax Sandoz AS, Copenhagen, Denmark 250 mg × 2 at the day of surgery, and 250 mg × 1 per day for 4 days	OH+ + mechanical debridement with curettes and cotton pellets soaked in saline	Subject level: BOP Test baseline: 100%; 12 months: 12.4 (9.2) % Control baseline: 100%; 12 months: 13.3 (11.1)% No significant difference between groups ( $p = 0.1$ ) PD reduction Test: 1.7 (1.1) mm, $p < 0.001$ Control: 1.6 (1.5) mm, $p < 0.001$ No significant difference between groups ( $p = 0.5$ ) RBL Test baseline: 4.6 (1.6) mm; 12 months: 4.0 (1.6) mm Control baseline: 4.9 (1.7) mm; 12 months: 4.5 (1.5) mm No significant difference between groups ( $p = 0.4$ )	During the study, participating individuals received professional prophylaxis every third month Adjunctive systemic azithromycin did not provide 1-year clinical benefits in comparison with access flap surgery alone

**Table 3** (continued)

Publication	Design	Population	Case definition	Period	Test	Control	Mean (SD) outcome	Supportive therapy/ comments
Albaker et al. (2018)	RCT, parallel	24 patients Tests: 1; mean age: 58.4 (8.0) years; 82% male; current smokers: 45%; Control: 13; mean age: 61.5 (9.9) years; 69% male; current smokers: 54%	Bone loss ≥ 2 mm compared with previous examination or ≥ 3 mm (in the absence of previous radiograph) + PD ≥ 5 mm + BOP/SUPP	12 months	Access flap + implant cleaning with curettes and irrigation with sterile saline + aPDt (0.005% methylene blue photo sensitizer, diode laser 670 nm 7 days + 0.2% CHX mouthrinse for 1 min + Augmentin 625 mg three times daily, 7 days + 2% CHX mouthrinse for 2 weeks	Access flap + implant cleaning with curettes and irrigation with sterile saline + Augmentin 625 mg three times daily, 7 days + 0.2% CHX mouthrinse for 2 weeks	Subject level BOP Test baseline: 35.9 (10.6%), 12 months: 17.4 (5.5%) Control baseline: 26.5 (8.4%), 12 months: 14.8 (3.1%) Between group comparison: $p=0.22$	During the study, all patients received professional prophylaxis every third month. Single application of aPDt does not provide additional benefit in improving clinical and radiographic parameters
Toma et al. (2019)	RCT, parallel	47 patients, 70 implants Test 1: 16 patients, 23 implants, mean age: 67.5 (12.9) years; 95% female; history of periodontitis: 73% patients. Test 2: 16 patients, 23 implants; mean age: 61.7 (13.4) years; 81% female; history of periodontitis: 82% Control: 15 patients, 25 implants; mean age: 68.9 (15.8) years; 77% female; history of periodontitis: 84%	PD ≥ 5 mm + BOP/SUPP + radiographic bone loss ≥ 2 mm	6 months	Test 1: Access flap + mechanical debridement with plastic curettes + irrigation with sterile saline + air flow with glycine powder + CHX mouthrinse 0.2% for 10 days Test 2: Access flap + mechanical debridement with plastic curettes + irrigation with sterile saline + titanium brush for 30 s with oscillating handpiece + CHX mouthrinse 0.2% for 10 days	Test 1: Access flap + mechanical debridement with plastic curettes + irrigation with sterile saline + CHX mouthrinse 0.2% for 10 days Test 2: Access flap + mechanical debridement with plastic curettes + irrigation with sterile saline + titanium brush for 30 s with oscillating handpiece + CHX mouthrinse 0.2% for 10 days	Implant level BOP Test 1 baseline: 59 (5.20%), 6 months: 23 (2.30%); $p<0.001$ Test 2 baseline: 62 (4.72%), 6 months: 16 (3.77%); $p<0.001$ Control: 54 (4.49%), 6 months: 29 (3.49%); $p=0.001$ Significantly higher reduction in test 2 groups ( $p<0.001$ ) RBL Test 1 baseline: 6.94 (1.29) mm; 6 months: 4.71 (1.24) mm; $p<0.001$ Test 2 baseline: 6.45 (1.87) mm; 6 months: 3.98 (1.43) mm; $p<0.001$ Control: 7.11 (1.15) mm; 6 months: 5.44 (0.69) mm; $p>0.001$	3- and 6-months after surgery patients received professional supragingival cleaning. Test treatments were more effective, but treatment success remained low.

**Table 3** (continued)

Publication	Design	Population	Case definition	Period	Test	Control	Mean (SD) outcome	Supportive therapy/ comments
Cha et al (2019)	RCT, parallel	46 patients Test: 24 patients/24 implants; mean age: 63 (range: 46–84) years; female 60% Control: 22 patients/22 implants; mean age: 60.2 (range: 40–83) years; female: 40%	Peri-implant bone loss > 3 mm + PD > 5 mm + BOP	6 months	OHI+mechanical debridement with titanium-coated curettes, metallic copper-alloy scaler tip, titanium brush and air-powder abrasive+adjunctive minocycline ointment Repeated applications after 1, 3 and 6 months	OHI+mechanical debridement with titanium-coated curettes, metallic copper-alloy scaler tip, titanium brush and air-powder abrasive+adjunctive placebo ointment Repeated applications after 1, 3 and 6 months	Subject level BOP/SUP (%) Change At the deepest site Test: 0.58 (0.50) mm Control: 0.32 (0.57) mm intergroup comparison $p=0.102$ Mean change: test: 0.49 (0.35), control: 0.31 (0.46); between-group comparison: $p=0.141$ PD changes At the deepest site Test: 3.58 (2.32) mm Control: 2.45 (2.13) mm; intergroup comparison: $p=0.094$ Mean change Test: 2.68 (1.73) mm, control: 1.55 (1.86) mm; between-group comparison: $p=0.039$ RBL Test baseline: 6.33 (1.91) mm, 6 months: 7.05 (1.85) mm Control baseline: 5.16 (1.74) mm, 6 months: 5.47 (1.51) mm; $p=0.014$ 2.3-fold higher increase in test group (9.7 [0.56] mm vs control 0.31 [0.49] mm) Treatment success (PD < 5 mm + no BOP/ SUP + no further bone loss); Test: 55.7%; Control: 46.3%	

**Table 3** (continued)

Publication	Design	Population	Case definition	Period	Test	Control	Mean (SD) outcome	Supportive therapy/ comments
De Waal et al. (2013)	RCT, parallel	30 patients Test: 15; mean age: 59.4 (14.0) years; female: 10; current smokers: 4; former smokers: 3; history of periodontitis: 6 Control: 15; mean age: 61.5 (10.0) years; female: 10; current smokers: 7; former smokers: 1; history of periodontitis: 5 79 implants machined, rough- and medium-rough- surfaces Test: 15 patients, 31 implants Control: 15 patients, 48 implants	BOP/SUPP on probing + PD $\geq$ 5 mm and bone loss $\geq$ 2 mm	12 months	OHI/mechanical debridement + resective therapy (apical re-positioned flap + bone re-positioning) + surface re-contouring) + surface debridement using surgical gauzes soaked in saline + decontamination using 0.12% CHX + 0.05% cetylpyridinium chloride (CPC)	OHI/mechanical debridement + resective therapy (apical flap + bone re-positioning) + surface re-contouring) + surface debridement using surgical gauzes soaked in saline + decontamination using 0.12% CHX + 0.05% cetylpyridinium chloride (CPC)	Implant level BOP (% of implants with BOP) Test baseline: 96.8 (30%), 12 months: 96.8 (30%) Control baseline: 95.8 (46%), 12 months: 94.7 (36%) No significant difference between groups ( $p = 0.965$ ) PD Test baseline: 6.6 (1.6) mm, 12 months: 4.3 (2.1) mm Control baseline: 5.5 (1.4) mm, 12 months: 3.7 (0.8) mm. No significant difference between groups ( $p = 0.563$ ) SUPP Control baseline: 31.3 (1.5)%; 12 months: 58.6% Test baseline: 64.5 (20)%; 12 months: 29.0 (9%) No significant difference between groups ( $p = 0.977$ ) RBL Test baseline: 4.3 (2.1) mm, 12 months: 5.0 (2.5) Control baseline: 3.6 (1.9) mm, 12 months: 3.9 (2.0) No significant difference between groups ( $p = 0.949$ )	During follow-up examinations, patients were re-instructed in oral hygiene measures and implants and teeth were cleaned as necessary Implant surface decontamination with CPC in restorative surgical treatment of peri-implantitis does not lead to superior clinical results

**Table 3** (continued)

Publication	Design	Population	Case definition	Period	Test	Control	Mean (SD) outcome	Supportive therapy/ comments
De Waal et al. (2015)	RCT, parallel	44 patients Test: 22; mean age: 58.6 (10.2) years; female: 17; current smokers: 7; former smokers: 1; history of periodontitis: 10 Control: 22; mean age: 60.5 (11.6) years; female: 14; current smokers: 6; former smokers: 5; history of periodontitis: 10 108 implants machined, rough- and medium-rough surfaces Test: 22 patients, 49 implants Control: 22 patients, 59 implants	BOP and/or SUPP on probing + PD ≥ 5 mm and bone loss ≥ 2	12 months	OHI/mechanical debridement + resective therapy (apical re-positioned flap + bone re-contouring) + surface debridement using surgical gauzes soaked in saline + decontamination using 0.12% CHX + 0.05% cetylpyridinium chloride	OHI/mechanical debridement + resective therapy (apical re-positioned flap + bone re-contouring) + surface debridement using surgical gauzes soaked in saline + decontamination using 2.0% CHX	Implant level BOP (% of implants with BOP) Test baseline: 98.0 (47)%, 12 months: 77.1 (37)% Control baseline: 94.9 (56)%, 12 months: 68.5 (37)% No significant difference between groups ( $p = 0.53$ ) The use of a 2% CHX solution for implant surface decontamination during resective peri-implantitis therapy does not lead to improved clinical and radiographic results compared with a 0.12% CHX + 0.05% CPC solution	During follow-up examinations, patients were re-instructed in oral hygiene measures and implants, and teeth were cleaned as necessary

**Table 3** (continued)

Publication	Design	Population	Case definition	Period	Test	Control	Mean (SD) outcome	Supportive therapy/ comments
Circiuc et al (2016, 2017)	RCT, parallel	67 patients Group 1: systemic antibiotics/implant surface decontamination with CHX 2%; mean age: 65.7 (range: 23–90) years; female: 20; smokers: 33.3%; history of periodontitis: 77.8% Group 2: systemic antibiotics/implant surface decontamination with saline; 25; mean age: 67.9 (range: 21–88) years; female: 17; smokers: 36%; history of periodontitis: 84% Group 3: no systemic antibiotics/implant surface decontamination with an CHX: 24; mean age: 64.6 (range: 27–81) years; female: 14; smokers: 33.3%; history of periodontitis: 87.5% Group 4: no systemic antibiotics/implant surface decontamination with saline; 24; mean age: 66.9 (range: 30–88) years; female: 14; smokers: 29.2%; history of periodontitis: 87.5% 121 implants; 25.6% nonmodified, 74.4% modified surface implants Group 1 + 2: 66 Group 4 + 3: 53	PD ≥ 6 mm + BOP/SUPP + bone loss > 3 mm	3 years	Debridement with titanium-coated curettes + Group 3 decontamination with 0.2% CHX + Group 1 amoxicillin 2*750 mg, 10 days, 3 days prior surgery	Debridement with titanium-coated curettes + Group 2 and 4 decontamination with saline for 2 min. + Group 2 amoxicillin 2*750 mg, 10 days, 3 days prior surgery	Implant level BOP reduction 1 year Group 1: 39.1% Group 2: 34.8% Group 3: 44.4% Group 4: 51.4% No significant difference among groups ( $p < 0.05$ ) 3 years: Presence of BOP/SUPP (%) Group 1: 66.2% Group 2: 52.8% Group 3: 70% Group 4: 32.3% PD reduction 1 year Group 1: 280 (1.87) mm Group 2: 344 (1.66) mm Group 4: 216 (1.79) mm Group 4: 169 (2.22) mm Significantly greater in group 2 than in groups 3 and 4 ( $p < 0.05$ ) PD reduction 3 years Overall PD reduction compared to baseline: reduction of 2.73 ± 2.39 mm Group 1: 300 (2.44) mm Group 2: 238 (2.55) mm Group 3: 267 (2.48) mm Group 4: 290 (2.12) mm PD reduction was more pronounced at non-modified surface implants SUPP Baseline: mean: 68.7% Group 1: 72.3% Group 2: 65.2% Group 3: 67.3% Group 4: 70.3% After 1 year: Mean 74.4% Group 1: 13% Group 2: 6.5% Group 3: 22.2% Group 4: 31.4% RBL 3 years Group 1: gain 0.32 ± 1.64 mm Group 2: loss - 0.51 ± 1.87 mm Group 3: loss - 0.28 ± 1.78 mm Group 4: gain 0.65 ± 0.86 mm	

**Table 3** (continued)

Publication	Design	Population	Case definition	Period	Test	Control	Mean (SD) outcome	Supportive therapy/ comments
<i>Non-reconstructive therapy with implantoplasty</i>								
Roméo et al. (2005, 2007)	RCT, parallel	17 patients 22 implants rough surfaces Test: 10 patients, 19 implants Control: 7 patients, 16 implants	BOP/SUPP + PD > 4 mm horizontal peri-implant translucency	36 months	Full mouth disinfection/ mechanical debridement + respective therapy (apical re-positioned flap + bone re-contouring) + decontamination using metronidazole + tetracycline hydrochloride (3 min) + implantoplasty using diamond and Arkansas burs/silicone polishers + Amoxicillin 50 mg/kg/day for 8 days + CHX mouthrinse for 2 weeks	Full mouth disinfection/ mechanical debridement + respective therapy (apical re-positioned flap + bone re-contouring) + decontamination using metronidazole + tetracycline hydrochloride (3 min) + Amoxicillin 50 mg/kg/day for 8 days	Implant level mBI Test baseline: 2.83 (0.47), 3 years: 0.61 (0.67) Control baseline: 2.86 (0.35), 2 years: 2.33 (0.74) Between group comparison: Student's t-value of + 9.61 PD Test baseline: 5.70 (1.69) 3 years: 3.58 (1.06) mm, Control baseline: 6.52 (1.62) mm, 2 years: 5.5 (1.47) mm. Significantly higher PD values in control group (Student's t-value + 5.5) ML (recession) Test baseline: 0.5 (0.91) mm, 3 years: 1.96 (1.42) mm Control baseline: 0.23 (0.84) mm, 2 years: 1.64 (1.29) mm Between group comparison: Student's t-value of + 9.61 Recession index in control group-significantly lower (Student's t-value of - 21.4) RBL medial and distal Test baseline: 3.82 mm and 3.94 mm; 3 years: 3.81 mm and 3.94 mm Control baseline: 3.45 mm and 3.49 mm 3 years: 5.35 mm and 5.42 mm The mean variation of marginal bone level values mesial and distal Test: 0 and 0.001 mm ( $p > 0.05$ ) Control: .44 and 1.54 mm ( $p < 0.05$ )	

**Table 3** (continued)

Publication	Design	Population	Case definition	Period	Test	Control	Mean (SD) outcome	Supportive therapy/ comments
Lasserre et al (2020)	RCT, parallel	29 patients Smokers excluded 42 implants with modified surface Test: 15 patients; mean age: 62.3 (range: 52–74) years; female: 11; history of periodontitis: 13; 22 implants Control: 14 patients; mean age: 71 (range: 59–92) years; female: 11; history of periodontitis: 13; 20 implants	PD > 5 mm + bone loss ≥ 2 mm + BOP/ SUPP	6 months	OHI + access flap + mechanical debridement with curettes + irrigation with sterile saline + air-saline + implantoplasty + 0.1% CHX mouthrinse for 10 days $p < 0.008$	OHI + access flap + mechanical debridement with curettes + irrigation with sterile saline + air-flow with amino acid glycine powder + 0.1% CHX mouthrinse for 10 days $p < 0.008$	Implant level BOP Test baseline: 94.7 (10.7%), 6 months: 33.3 (24.2%)%, $p < 0.008$ Control baseline: 87.4 (22.3)%, 6 months: 26.3 (23.2)% PD	After 3 and 6 months careful professional supragingival cleansing was performed. Implantoplasty is as effective as glycine air polishing
<b>b) Studies comparing reconstructive therapy versus access flap surgery</b>								
Wohlfahrt et al (2012)	RCT, parallel	32 patients (13 female; 19 male) Test: 16; mean age: 65.0 (10.0) years; smokers: 6 (37.5%) Control: 16; mean age: 57.2 (12.3) years; smokers 10 (58.8%) 32 implants medium rough surfaces	PD ≥ 5 mm, BOP + intrabony defects ≥ 4 mm	12 months submerged healing for 6 months	Access flap surgery + mechanical debridement (titanium curettes) + conditioning using 24% ethylenediamine-tetraacetic acid gel (2 min) + augmentation of intrabony defect components using porous titanium granules	Open flap surgery + mechanical debridement sites pro-implant reduction Test: 0.38 (2.1)%, Control: 1.56 (2.9) %	Test group showed significantly better radiographic peri-implant defect fill compared with controls. Improvements in clinical parameters were seen in both groups, but no differences between groups were demonstrated	
<b>c) Studies comparing surgical approaches</b>								
Wohlfahrt et al (2012)	RCT, parallel	32 patients (13 female; 19 male) Test: 16; mean age: 65.0 (10.0) years; smokers: 6 (37.5%) Control: 16; mean age: 57.2 (12.3) years; smokers 10 (58.8%) 32 implants medium rough surfaces	PD ≥ 5 mm, BOP + intrabony defects ≥ 4 mm	12 months submerged healing for 6 months	Access flap surgery + mechanical debridement (titanium curettes) + conditioning using 24% ethylenediamine-tetraacetic acid gel (2 min) + augmentation of intrabony defect components using porous titanium granules	Open flap surgery + mechanical debridement sites pro-implant reduction Test: 0.38 (2.1)%, Control: 1.56 (2.9) %	Test group showed significantly better radiographic peri-implant defect fill compared with controls. Improvements in clinical parameters were seen in both groups, but no differences between groups were demonstrated	
<b>d) Studies comparing different supportive therapies</b>								
Wohlfahrt et al (2012)	RCT, parallel	32 patients (13 female; 19 male) Test: 16; mean age: 65.0 (10.0) years; smokers: 6 (37.5%) Control: 16; mean age: 57.2 (12.3) years; smokers 10 (58.8%) 32 implants medium rough surfaces	PD ≥ 5 mm, BOP + intrabony defects ≥ 4 mm	12 months submerged healing for 6 months	Access flap surgery + mechanical debridement (titanium curettes) + conditioning using 24% ethylenediamine-tetraacetic acid gel (2 min) + augmentation of intrabony defect components using porous titanium granules	Open flap surgery + mechanical debridement sites pro-implant reduction Test: 0.38 (2.1)%, Control: 1.56 (2.9) %	Test group showed significantly better radiographic peri-implant defect fill compared with controls. Improvements in clinical parameters were seen in both groups, but no differences between groups were demonstrated	
<b>e) Studies comparing different surgical approaches</b>								
Wohlfahrt et al (2012)	RCT, parallel	32 patients (13 female; 19 male) Test: 16; mean age: 65.0 (10.0) years; smokers: 6 (37.5%) Control: 16; mean age: 57.2 (12.3) years; smokers 10 (58.8%) 32 implants medium rough surfaces	PD ≥ 5 mm, BOP + intrabony defects ≥ 4 mm	12 months submerged healing for 6 months	Access flap surgery + mechanical debridement (titanium curettes) + conditioning using 24% ethylenediamine-tetraacetic acid gel (2 min) + augmentation of intrabony defect components using porous titanium granules	Open flap surgery + mechanical debridement sites pro-implant reduction Test: 0.38 (2.1)%, Control: 1.56 (2.9) %	Test group showed significantly better radiographic peri-implant defect fill compared with controls. Improvements in clinical parameters were seen in both groups, but no differences between groups were demonstrated	

**Table 3** (continued)

Publication	Design	Population	Case definition	Period	Test	Control	Mean (SD) outcome	Supportive therapy/ comments
Andersen et al. (2017) (Wolffhährt et al. continuum)	RCT, split-mouth design	12 patients 12 implants Test: 6 patients, 6 implants Control: 6 patients, 6 implants	BOP/ SUPP + PD ≥ 5 mm + radiographic bone oss ≥ 2 mm	7 years			Implant level PD changes Test baseline: 6.5 (1.9) mm, 7 years: 4.3 (2.4) mm Control baseline: 6.5 (2.3) mm, 7 years: 3.5 (1.2) mm RDF Mean radiographic osseous defect fill: test: 1.9 (2) mm control: 1.3 (1.4) mm Comparative statistical analysis was not performed	Follow-ups were handled by the referring dentists Surgical treatment of per-implant osseous defects showed unpredictable results
Hamzacebi et al. (2015)	RCT, split-mouth design	19 patients, 38 implants Test: 19 implants Control: 19 implants Mean age: 60.98 (11.90) years	BOP/ SUPP + PD ≥ 5 mm + radiographic bone oss ≥ 2 mm	6 months	Access flap + mechanical debridement with PeriBrush + 4% pH 1 citric acid for 3 min or tetracycline chloride solution + intrabony defect fill with (500 mg; 3 times per day; 7 days) + 0.12% CHX mouthrinse for 7 days	Access flap + mechanical debridement with PeriBrush + 4% pH 1 citric acid for 3 min or tetracycline chloride solution + intrabony defect fill with (500 mg; 3 times per day; 7 days) + 0.12% CHX mouthrinse for 7 days	Implant level BOP Test baseline: 79.31 (31.17)%; 6 months: 25.29 (14.51)%; $p < 0.001$ Control baseline: 65.47 (36.08)%; 6 months: 21.43 (16.57)%; $p > 0.001$ Between group comparison not conducted	Supportive therapy NR PRF application led to better clinical results

**Table 3** (continued)

Publication	Design	Population	Case definition	Period	Test	Control	Mean (SD) outcome	Supportive therapy/ comments
Jepsen et al. (2016)	Multicenter RCT, parallel	63 patients (27 female, 36 male) 63 implants Test: 33 patients; mean age: 57.5 (12.6) years; current smokers: 11 (33.3%); former smokers: 9 (27.3%); history of periodontal treatment: 17 (51.5%); 33 implants Control: 30 patients; mean age: 59.1 (12.2) years; current smokers: 7 (23.3%); former smokers: 11 (36.7%); history of periodontal treatment: 20 (66.7%); 30 implants	PD ≥ 5 mm+BOP/SUPP +Intraosseous circumferential three-wall defects ≥ 3 mm	12 months	Access flap + mechanical debridement with rotary titanium brush and H <sub>2</sub> O <sub>2</sub> 3% (1 min) followed by rinsing with saline (60 s) + Titanium granules + Amoxicillin 500 mg, 3 times/day + metronidazole 400 mg, 2 times/day, 8 days, starting 1 day before surgery	Access flap + mechanical debridement with rotary titanium brush and H <sub>2</sub> O <sub>2</sub> 3% (1 min) followed by rinsing with saline (60 s) + Amoxicillin 500 mg, 3 times/day + metronidazole 400 mg, 2 times/day, 8 days, starting 1 day before surgery	Subject level BOP reduction Test: 56.1 (30.5)% Control: 44.9 (38.2)% Significant reduction compared to baseline ( $p < 0.001$ ) No significant difference between groups ( $p > 0.05$ ) PD reduction Test: 2.8 (1.3) mm Control: 2.6 (1.4) mm Significant reduction compared to baseline ( $p < 0.001$ ) No significant difference between groups ( $p > 0.05$ ) SUPP reduction Test: 23.2 (32.8) % Control: 25.6 (32.7) % Significant reduction compared to baseline ( $p < 0.001$ ) No significant difference between groups ( $p > 0.05$ ) Radiographic defect height reduction: mesial/distal: test: 3.61 (1.96)/3.56 (2.07) mm control: 1.05 (1.42)/1.04 (1.34) mm Significantly higher in test group ( $p < 0.0001$ ) RDF mesial/distal: test: 79.00 (29.85)%/74.22 (36.33)% control: 23.11 (46.28)%/21.89 (30.16)% Significantly higher in test group ( $p < 0.0001$ )	Patients were recalled at 6 wk and 3, 6, 9, and 12 mo after surgery for professional oral hygiene procedures with supragingival debridement and hygiene instructions provided as needed Test group showed significantly enhanced radiographic defect fill compared with control group. Similar improvements according to clinical measures were obtained after both surgical treatment modalities

**Table 3** (continued)

Publication	Design	Population	Case definition	Period	Test	Control	Mean (SD) outcome	Supportive therapy/ comments
Renvert et al. (2018)	RCT, parallel	41 patients 41 implant Test: 21 patients; female: 13; 21 implants Control: 20 patients; female: 9; 20 implants	PD ≥ 5 mm + BOP/SUPP + marginal bone loss, defined as a crater-like defect ≥ 3 mm	12 months	Access flap + mechanical debride- ment with titanium curettes + decontami- nation with 3% hydro- gen-peroxide cotton pellets + application of bovine-derived deproteinized bone particles + Zitromax (Sandoz A/S, Copen- hagen, Denmark) 500 mg day one and 250 mg days 2–4	Access flap + mechanical debride- ment with titanium curettes + decon- tamination with 3% hydrogen-peroxide cotton pellets + Zitro- max (Sandoz A/S; Copenhagen, Den- mark) 500 mg day one and 250 mg days 2–4	Implant level BOP Test baseline: 100%, 12 months: 47.6% Control baseline: 100%, 12 months: 35% No difference between groups ( $p = 0.41$ ) PD Test baseline: 6.5 (1.9) mm, 12 months: 2.9 (1.4) mm, $p > 0.001$ Control baseline: 6.7 (1.8) mm, 12 months: 4.2 (2.8) mm, $p > 0.001$ Significantly greater reduction in the test group ( $p < 0.001$ ) ML (mid-buccal recession) Test: 1.2 mm Control: 1.9 mm No difference between groups ( $p = 0.76$ ) RDF Test: 0.7 (0.9) mm Significant compared to the baseline ( $p = 0.004$ )	Based on individual needs, professional prophylaxis was performed every 3rd month Successful treatment outcome using a bone substitute was more predictable when a composite therapeutic endpoint was con- sidered

**Table 3** (continued)

Publication	Design	Population	Case definition	Period	Test	Control	Mean (SD) outcome	Supportive therapy/ comments
Iseñed et al. (2016, 2018)	RCT, parallel	23 patients 23 implants Smokers included Test: 10 patients, 10 implants Control: 13 patients, 13 implants	PD ≥ 5 mm + BOP/ SUPP + angular bone loss ≥ 2 mm	5 years	Access flap + mechanical debridement with ultrasonic device and titanium hand instruments + cotton pellets soaked in sodium chloride + application of Endogain (EMD) (0.3 ml) + non-submerged healing	Access flap + mechanical debridement with ultrasonic device and titanium hand instruments + cotton pellets soaked in sodium chloride + non-submerged healing	Implant level BOP-positive sites 5 years Test: 5/11 (55.6%) implants Control: 2/9 (40%) implants Presence of SUPP: Test baseline: 9/15 (60%); 1 year: 1/15 (7%) Control baseline: 6/14 (43%); 1 year: 1/14 (7%) Supuration at 3 years Test: 2/13 (20%) implants Control: 2/12 (33%) implants MBL changes 5 years Test: 4.1 mm Control: 3.3 mm Change: test: +1.4 mm Control: +1.3 mm $p=0.90$	Between 1 and 5 years after the peri-implant surgical treatment, supportive therapy was performed based on individual needs at the specialist clinic or by the patient's general dental clinic, usually with 3- or 6-month intervals Test group showed increased bone levels 12 months after treatment

**Table 3** (continued)

Publication	Design	Population	Case definition	Period	Test	Control	Mean (SD) outcome	Supportive therapy/ comments
Renvert et al. (2021)	RCT	66 patients 66 implants Test: 34; Female 54%; age: 62.2 (10.2) years; Smokers 8 (22%) Control: 32; Female 50%; age: 62.9 (10) years; smokers 9 (26%) Heavy smokers (> 10 cig./day) excluded	PD ≥ 5 mm + BOP/SUPP + radiographic bone loss ≥ 3 mm + intraosseous defect component of at least 3 mm depth and a circumference at least 270° detected intraoperatively	1 year	Access flap + debride- ment with titanium curettes + titanium brush + decontamina- tion with 3% H <sub>2</sub> O <sub>2</sub> 1 min + saline rins- ing + defect fill with bovine bone mixed with blood + bilaminar collagen mem- brane + postopera- tive antibiotics (Aztyromycin 500 mg, 4 days; + CHX 0.2% moutrinse for 3 weeks	Access flap + debride- ment with titanium curettes + titanium brush + deconta- mination with 3% H <sub>2</sub> O <sub>2</sub> 1 min + saline rinsing + postopera- tive antibiotics (Aztyromycin 500 mg, 4 days; + CHX 0.2% moutrinse for 3 weeks	Subject level BOP (severity of bleeding pro- implant) Test baseline: 1.3 (0.9), 12 months: 0.4 (0.6) Control baseline: 1.4 (1.0); 12 months: 0.5 (0.6); Between group comparison: $p = 0.992$	Oral hygiene instruc- tions were provided after 3, 6, and 12 months following the surgery Reconstructive therapy resulted in significantly more RDF. No differ- ence in clinical par- ameters was noted

**Table 3** (continued)

Publication	Design	Population	Case definition	Period	Test	Control	Mean (SD) outcome	Supportive therapy/ comments
<i>o) Reconstructive therapy</i>								
Adjunctive and alternative measures for implant surface decontamination following reconstructive therapy								
Deppe et al. (2007)	CCT, parallel	16 patients 32 implants machined, rough- and medium-rough surfaces Test: 9 patients, 17 implants Control: 7 patients, 15 implants	PD ≥ 5 mm; BOP + progressive vertical bone loss	5 years	3 weeks prior to surgery: CHX gel applications (0.3%) Group 2 OHI+ access flap surgery + air polishing + carbon dioxide laser (cw mode, 2.5 W, 12 × 5 s) decontamination + beta tricalcium phosphate + cortical bone chips harvested from the retromolar area (50:50) + nonresorb- able synthetic barrier membrane	Implant level SBP Test baseline: 0.5 (0.8), 5 years: 2.1 (1.4) Control baseline: 1.2 (0.6), 5 years: 1.9 (1.0) PD	Over the 5-year period, if plaque and bleeding scores indicated poor oral hygiene, remova- tion and reinstruction of OHI were performed There seems to be no difference between laser and conventional decontamination	
Isler et al. (2018a)	RCT, parallel	41 patients 60 implants Test: 20 patients; mean age: 54.4 (8.08) years; female: 9; current smokers: 5 (25%); history of periodontitis: 9 (45%); 30 implants Control: 21 patients; mean age: 54.18 (10.36) years; female: 10; current smokers: 6 (28.5%); history of periodontitis: 8 (38%); 30 implants	≥ 2 mm marginal bone loss + BOP/SUP with or without deepening of PDs	12 months	Access flap + mechan- ical debridement with titanium curettes + irri- gation with saline (3 min) + ozone application + bovine bone mineral mixed with CGF + coverage with piece of concen- trated growth factors (CGF) + coverage with CGF mem- branes + Amoxicillin (500 mg) + metronida- zole (500 mg) 3 times/ day for 1 week	Implant level BOP Test baseline: 9.66 (10.5), 12 months: 1.58 (19.1), $p < 0.001$ Control baseline: 9.75 (10.06), 12 months: 25 (21.7), $p < 0.001$ No difference between groups ( $p = 0.575$ ) PD	The patients were re-evaluated at 1, 3, 6, 9, and 12 months postoperatively and supportive care was given at the same time points Higher radiographic defect fill in the test group	
Isler et al. (2018b)	RCT, parallel	41 patients 60 implants Test: 20 patients; mean age: 54.4 (8.08) years; female: 9; current smokers: 5 (25%); history of periodontitis: 9 (45%); 30 implants Control: 21 patients; mean age: 54.18 (10.36) years; female: 10; current smokers: 6 (28.5%); history of periodontitis: 8 (38%); 30 implants	≥ 2 mm marginal bone loss + BOP/SUP with or without deepening of PDs	12 months	Access flap + mechan- ical debridement with titanium curettes + irri- gation with saline (3 min) + ozone application + bovine bone mineral mixed with CGF + coverage with piece of concen- trated growth factors (CGF) + coverage with CGF mem- branes + Amoxicillin (500 mg) + metronida- zole (500 mg) 3 times/ day for 1 week	Implant level BOP Test baseline: 9.66 (10.5), 12 months: 1.58 (19.1), $p < 0.001$ Control baseline: 9.75 (10.06), 12 months: 25 (21.7), $p < 0.001$ No difference between groups ( $p = 0.575$ ) PD	The patients were re-evaluated at 1, 3, 6, 9, and 12 months postoperatively and supportive care was given at the same time points Higher radiographic defect fill in the test group	
Isler et al. (2018c)	RCT, parallel	41 patients 60 implants Test: 20 patients; mean age: 54.4 (8.08) years; female: 9; current smokers: 5 (25%); history of periodontitis: 9 (45%); 30 implants Control: 21 patients; mean age: 54.18 (10.36) years; female: 10; current smokers: 6 (28.5%); history of periodontitis: 8 (38%); 30 implants	≥ 2 mm marginal bone loss + BOP/SUP with or without deepening of PDs	12 months	Access flap + mechan- ical debridement with titanium curettes + irri- gation with saline (3 min) + ozone application + bovine bone mineral mixed with CGF + coverage with piece of concen- trated growth factors (CGF) + coverage with CGF mem- branes + Amoxicillin (500 mg) + metronida- zole (500 mg) 3 times/ day for 1 week	Implant level BOP Test baseline: 9.66 (10.5), 12 months: 1.58 (19.1), $p < 0.001$ Control baseline: 9.75 (10.06), 12 months: 25 (21.7), $p < 0.001$ No difference between groups ( $p = 0.575$ ) PD	The patients were re-evaluated at 1, 3, 6, 9, and 12 months postoperatively and supportive care was given at the same time points Higher radiographic defect fill in the test group	
Isler et al. (2018d)	RCT, parallel	41 patients 60 implants Test: 20 patients; mean age: 54.4 (8.08) years; female: 9; current smokers: 5 (25%); history of periodontitis: 9 (45%); 30 implants Control: 21 patients; mean age: 54.18 (10.36) years; female: 10; current smokers: 6 (28.5%); history of periodontitis: 8 (38%); 30 implants	≥ 2 mm marginal bone loss + BOP/SUP with or without deepening of PDs	12 months	Access flap + mechan- ical debridement with titanium curettes + irri- gation with saline (3 min) + ozone application + bovine bone mineral mixed with CGF + coverage with piece of concen- trated growth factors (CGF) + coverage with CGF mem- branes + Amoxicillin (500 mg) + metronida- zole (500 mg) 3 times/ day for 1 week	Implant level BOP Test baseline: 9.66 (10.5), 12 months: 1.58 (19.1), $p < 0.001$ Control baseline: 9.75 (10.06), 12 months: 25 (21.7), $p < 0.001$ No difference between groups ( $p = 0.575$ ) PD	The patients were re-evaluated at 1, 3, 6, 9, and 12 months postoperatively and supportive care was given at the same time points Higher radiographic defect fill in the test group	

**Table 3** (continued)

Publication	Design	Population	Case definition	Period	Test	Control	Mean (SD) outcome	Supportive therapy/ comments
<b>Reconstruction of the defect with different bone fillers, with and without a membrane</b>								
Khoury et al. (2001)	CCT, parallel	25 patients; mean age: 48.2 (6.3) years; 22 female 41 implants Test 1: 20 implants Test 2: 9 implants Control: 12 implants	Bone loss > 50% of implant length + intrabony crater-form defect	3 years	Test 1: Access flap + decontamination with 0.2% chlorhexidine digluconate, citric acid (pH = 1) (1 min.) and rinsed with H <sub>2</sub> O <sub>2</sub> + test 1 autogenous bone + non-resorbable membrane Test 2: autogenous bone + resorbable membrane + submerged healing + Antibiotics administered 4 weeks prior to surgery (for 1 week), and later starting 1 day and finishing 7 days after surgery according to the individual susceptibility test results	Access flap + decontamination with 0.2% chlorhexidine digluconate, citric acid (pH = 1) (1 min.) and rinsed with H <sub>2</sub> O <sub>2</sub> + autogenous bone + submerged healing + Antibiotics administered 4 weeks prior to surgery (for 1 week), and later starting 1 day and finishing 7 days after surgery according to the individual susceptibility test results	Implant level PD changes Test 1: 1.54 (3.0) mm Test 2: 2.06 (1.6) mm Control: 5.1 (2.7) mm	The patients were enrolled in a supportive maintenance program and monitored on a 3- to 6-month recall schedule including repeated oral hygiene instructions and a full-mouth tooth cleaning according to their individual needs 17 out of 29 barrier-treated implants (58.6%) were compromised by early post-therapy complication (e.g., dehiscence, exposure, fistula, or sequester formation)
<b>Reconstruction of the defect with different bone fillers, with and without a membrane</b>								
Schwarz et al. (2006, 2008, 2009)	RCT, parallel	20 patients; 14 female; mean age: 54.4 (12.5) years; 1 patient (light smoker (< 10 cig./day)) 21 implants Test: 9 patients, 9 implants Control: 10 patients, 11 implants	PD > 6 mm, BOP/SUPP + intrabony component > 3 mm	4 years	OH + initial non-surgical therapy Access flap surgery + mechanical debridement (plastic curettes) + nanocrystalline hydroxyapatite paste + non-submerged healing	Subject level BOP reduction Test: 32% Control: 51% PD reduction Test: 1.1 (0.3) mm Control: 2.5 (0.9) mm BOP and PD reductions significantly higher at control sites	A supragingival professional implant/tooth cleaning and reinforcement of oral hygiene were performed at 1, 3, 6, 12, 18, 24, 30, 36, 42, and 48 months after treatment Long-term outcome obtained in test group without barrier membrane must be considered as poor	

**Table 3** (continued)

Publication	Design	Population	Case definition	Period	Test	Control	Mean (SD) outcome	Supportive therapy/ comments
Agazadeh et al. (2012)	RCT, parallel	45 patients 71 implants medium-rough surfaces. Test: 23 patients; mean age: 67.0 (7.5) years; smokers: 69.6%; Control: 22 patients; mean age: 70.1 (6.2) years; smokers: 40.9%; 34 implants	PD ≥ 5 mm + BOP/SUPP + radiographic implant bone defect ≥ 3 mm	12 months	Access flap surgery + mechanical debridement (titanium instruments) + decontamination using hydrogen peroxide 3% cortical bone chips harvested from the mandibular ramus + resorbable synthetic barrier Membrane + Azithromycin 2 × 250 mg /day, 1 × 250 mg 2–4 days 1 day, 1 × 250 mg 2–4 days	Access flap surgery + mechanical debridement (titanium instruments) + decontamination using hydrogen peroxide 3% bovine-derived xenograft + resorbable synthetic barrier membrane + Azithromycin 2 × 250 mg /day, 1 × 250 mg 2–4 days	Implant level BOP reduction Test: 50.4 (5.3)% Control: 44.8 (6.3)% No significant difference between the groups ( $p > 0.05$ ) PD reduction Test: 3.1 (0.2) mm Control: 2.0 (0.2) mm Significantly higher in the test group ( $p < 0.01$ ) SUPP reduction Test: 25.2 (4.3)% Control: 11.5 (5.2)% Significantly higher in the test group ( $p < 0.01$ ) RDF Test: 1.1 (0.3) mm Control: 0.2 (0.3) mm Significantly higher in test group ( $p < 0.05$ )	Six weeks after surgery the first supportive therapy was given, and the subjects were enrolled in a maintenance program with visits every third month. Alleviating teeth and implants were cleaned using a rubber cup and low-abrasive paste Bovine xenograft provided more radiographic bone fill than autogenous bone
Roos-Jänsaker et al. (2007, 2011, 2014)	CCT, parallel	25 patients 45 implants Test: 13 patients; mean age: 64.9 (7.5) years; current smokers: 10 (76.9%); former smokers: 2 (15.4%); 23 implants Control: 12 patients; mean age: 65.7 (7.4) years; current smokers: 8 (66.7%); former smokers: 3 (25.0%); 22 implants	Bone loss > 3 threads ( $\geq 1.8$ mm) one-to-four intrabony defect + BOP and/or SUPP	5 years	Removal of the suprastructure Access flap surgery + debridement + decontamination using hydrogen peroxide 3% algae-derived xenograft + resorbable synthetic barrier membrane + non-submerged healing + systemic antibiotic medication (amoxicillin + metronidazole for 10 days)	Removal of the suprastructure Access flap surgery + debridement + decontamination using hydrogen peroxide 3% algae-derived xenograft + non-submerged membrane + non-submerged healing + systemic antibiotic medication (amoxicillin + metronidazole for 10 days)	Implant level PD reduction at the deepest site Test: 3.0 (0.4) mm Control: 3.3 (2.0) mm No significant difference between the groups ( $p = 0.60$ ) MLI (recession changes at the deepest site) Test: -1.6 (1.5) mm Control: -1.7 (2.1) mm No significant difference between the groups ( $p = 0.89$ ) RDF Test: 1.5 (1.2) mm Control: 1.1 (1.2) mm No significant difference between the groups ( $p = 0.24$ )	The participants were then enrolled in a maintenance program with visits every third month. At these visits, full-mouth plaque scores were obtained. Re-instruction in oral hygiene procedures was performed as necessary. Teeth and implants were cleaned using a rubber cup and a low-abrasive paste Additional use of a membrane did not improve the outcome

**Table 3** (continued)

Publication	Design	Population	Case definition	Period	Test	Control	Mean (SD) outcome	Supportive therapy/ comments
Güler et al. (2016)	CCT, parallel	24 patients (9 female, 15 male), mean age: 45.36 (14.1) years 35 implants Test: 18 patients; 19 implants Control: 6 patients, 16 implants Light smokers included (< 10 cig/7 day) Test: 3 (18.75%) Control: 3 (50%)	PD > 5 mm + BOP/SUPP Class I <sup>a</sup> defects (vestibular dehiscence + circumferential bone resorption) Class I <sup>c</sup> defects (vestibular dehiscence + circumferential bone resorption) Class II defects (circumferential bone resorption)	6 months	OHI + access flap + mechanical cleaning with rotating titanium brush + titanium granules + PRF (platelet-rich fibrin membrane + non-submerged healing + systemic antibiotics Amoxicillin clavulanate 2 × 1000 mg/day, 7 days	OHI + access flap + mechanical cleaning with rotating titanium brush + xenograft + resorbable collagen membrane + PRF (platelet-rich fibrin membrane) + non-submerged healing + systemic antibiotics Amoxicillin clavulanate 2 × 1000 mg/day, 7 days	Implant level BOP Test baseline: 50.17 (25.19)%, 6 months; 24.32 (11.22)% Control baseline: 63.51 (24.38)%, 6 months; 33.00 (15.51)% Significantly higher reduction in test group ( $p = 0.02$ )	Radiographic bone filling was significantly higher in the test group

**Table 3** (continued)

Publication	Design	Population	Case definition	Period	Test	Control	Mean (SD) outcome	Supportive therapy/ comments
Isler et al. (2018b)	RCT, parallel	52 patients 105 implants Test: 26 patients; female: 10; current smokers 6; history of periodontitis: 11; 52 implants (23% non-modified, 77% modified) Control: 26 patients; female: 15; current smokers 9; history of periodontitis: 13; 52 implants (19.2% non-modified, 80.8% modified)	Marginal bone loss $\geq 2$ mm based on baseline radiograph + BOP /SUPP	12 months	OHI+ supra/sub- gingival mechanical debridement 4–6 weeks prior to surgery Access flap + mechan- ical debridement with titanium curettes and saline-soaked cotton gauses + bovine bone filler + concentrated growth factor (CGF) membrane + systemic antibiotics Amoxicillin 500 mg + metronida- zole 500 mg, 3 times a day, 1 week + 0.12% CHX mouthrinse 2 weeks	OHI+ supra/sub- gingival mechani- cal debridement 4–6 weeks prior to surgery Access flap + mechan- ical debridement with titanium curettes and saline-soaked cotton gauses + bovine bone filler + collagen membrane + systemic antibiotics Amoxicillin 500 mg + metronida- zole 500 mg, 3 times a day, 1 week + 0.12% CHX mouthrinse 2 weeks	Implant level BOP Test baseline: 97.12 (10.79)%, 12 months: 35.58 (30.14%), $p < 0.001$ Control baseline: 97.12 (8.15)%, 12 months: 29.81 (30.02), $p < 0.001$ Between group comparison: $p = 0.503$ PD Test baseline: 5.92 (1.26) mm, 12 months: 3.71 (1.09) mm, $p < 0.001$ Control baseline: 5.41 (1.16) mm, 12 months: 2.70 (0.80) mm, $p < 0.001$ Between group comparison: $p = 0.001$ ML (recession) Test baseline: 0.04 (0.20) mm, 12 months: 0.25 (0.39) mm, $p = 0.007$ Control baseline: 0.06 (0.20) mm, 12 months: 0.27 (0.44) mm, $p = 0.026$ Between group comparison: $p = 0.925$ RDF Test: 1.63 (1.0) mm Control: 1.98 (0.75) mm, $p = 0.154$ treatment success (PD $< 5$ mm + no BOP/SUPP, no further bone loss); Test: 26.9% implants Control: 42.3% implants	

**Table 3** (continued)

Publication	Design	Population	Case definition	Period	Test	Control	Mean (SD) outcome	Supportive therapy/ comments
Polymeri et al. (2020)	RCT, parallel	24 patients, 24 implants Test: 13; mean age: 57.3 (15.1) years; female: 5 (38%); smokers: 2 (15%); history of periodontal treatment: 6 (46%) Control: 11; mean age: 65.5 (11.2) years; female: 6 (55%); smokers: 3 (27%); history of periodontal treatment: 4 (36%)	Bone loss $\geq 2$ mm + PD $\geq 5$ mm + BOP/ SUPP + intra-ossous defect component $\geq 3$ mm at the deepest part and presence of at least three walls	12 months	Access flap + mechanical debridement with titanium curettes + decontamination with 3% H <sub>2</sub> O <sub>2</sub> 1 min + xenograft (EndoBone + non-submerged healing + systemic antibiotics Amoxicillin 500 mg twice a day, 8 days, starting 1 day prior to surgery + 4 weeks mouthrinse with 0.12% CHX	Access flap + mechanical debridement with titanium curettes + decontamination with 3% H <sub>2</sub> O <sub>2</sub> 1 min + xenograft (BioOss + non-submerged healing + systemic antibiotics Amoxicillin 500 mg twice a day, 8 days, starting 1 day prior to surgery + 4 weeks mouthrinse with 0.12% CHX	Subject level BOP Test baseline: 100 (0.0%), 12 months: 50 (10.2%), $p < 0.001$ Control baseline: 100 (0.0%), 12 months: 45.5 (33.2%), $p < 0.001$	Patients were recalled at 6 weeks and 3, 6, 9, and 12 months after the surgery for professional oral hygiene procedures that included supragingival debridement and polishing with a rubber cup and a low-abrasive paste Test and control groups showed comparable outcomes

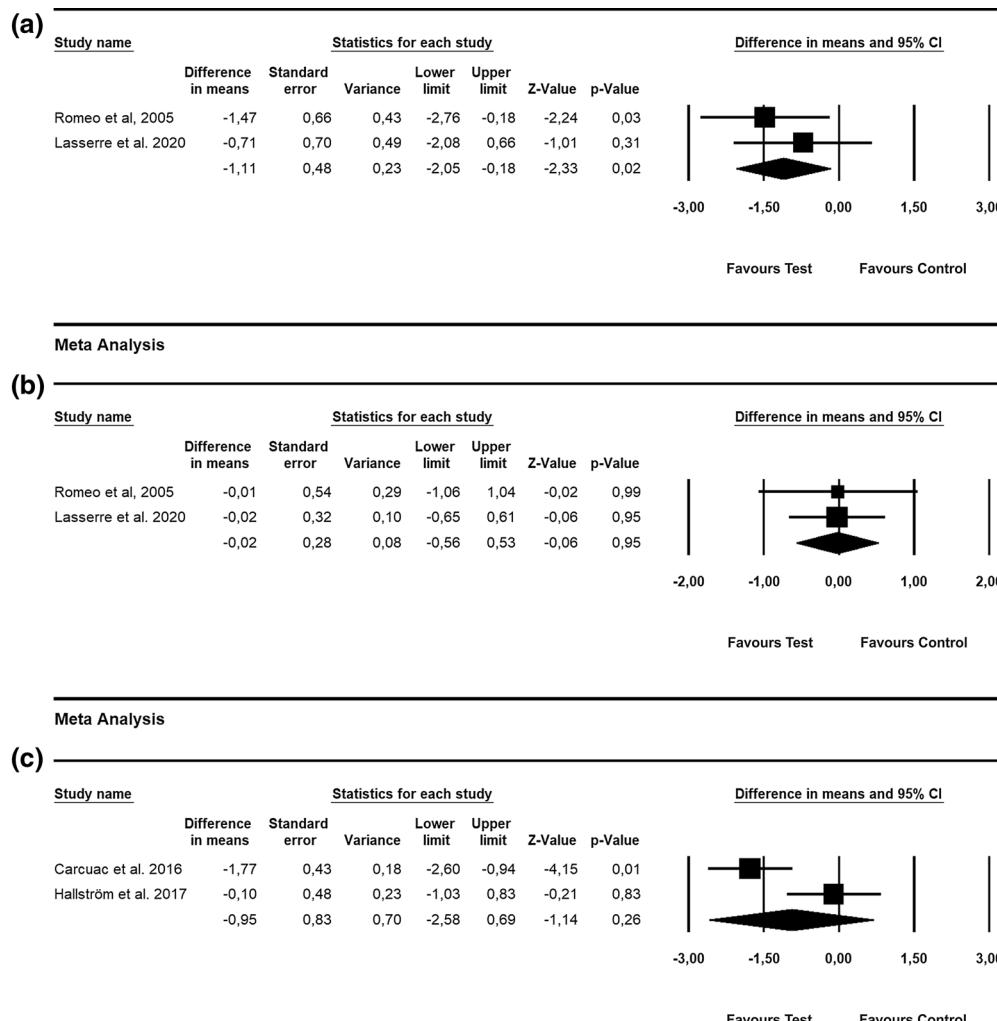
**Table 3** (continued)

Publication	Design	Population	Case definition	Period	Test	Control	Mean (SD) outcome	Supportive therapy/ comments
<i>d) Combined therapy</i> Schwarz et al. (2011, 2012, 2013, 2017)	RCT, parallel	15 patients 11 females, 4 males; median age: 63 years Heavy smokers (≥ 10 cigarettes/day) excluded 15 patients Test: 6 patients, 6 implants Control: 9 patients, 9 implants	PD ≥ 6 + BOP/SUPP intrabony component > 3 mm + suprabony component > 1 mm	7 years	Initial non-surgical therapy + OH/Access flap + iT:AG laser device (cone-shaped glass fiber tip) at 11.4 J/cm <sup>2</sup> + implantoplasty at buccally and supracrestally exposed implant parts + bovine-derived xenograft + native collagen membrane + non-submerged healing	Initial non-surgical therapy + OH/Access flap + mechanical debridement with plastic curettes and saline-soaked cotton gauzes + implantoplasty at buccally and supracrestally exposed implant parts + bovine-derived xenograft + native collagen membrane + non-submerged healing	Subject level BOP reduction Test: 86.6% (12.6%) Control: 89.9% (11.65%) Significant improvement compared to baseline ( $p < 0.001$ ) PD reduction Test: 0.74 (1.89) mm Control: 2.55 (1.67) mm Significant improvement compared to the baseline ( $p < 0.001$ ) ML (reduction of recession) Test: 1.36 (1.04) mm Control: 0.49 (0.92) mm Combined surgical therapy of advanced peri-implantitis was not influenced by the initial method of surface decontamination	A supragingival professional implant/tooth cleaning and reinforcement of oral hygiene were performed at 1, 3, and 6 months after therapy. Afterwards, recall appointments to provide professionally administered plaque removal and reinforcement of oral hygiene were scheduled on an annual basis

**Table 3** (continued)

Publication	Design	Population	Case definition	Period	Test	Control	Mean (SD) outcome	Supportive therapy/ comments
De Tapiia et al. (2019)	RCT, parallel	30 patients Heavy smokers (≥ 10 cigarettes/day) excluded 30 patients Test: 15 patients; mean age: 65.33 (10.29) years; female: 11 (73.3%); light smokers: 6 (40%); 15 implants Control: 15 patients; mean age: 55.47 (11.75) years; female: 9 (60%); light smok- ers: 4 (26.7%); 15 implants	PD ≥ 6 mm + BOP/SUPP + bone loss > 30% of the implant surface + intra- surgically osseous defect with at least two bone walls and depth of 3 mm of intrabony component	12 months	Initial non-surgical therapy: OHI Access flap + implan- toplasty supracra- stally with diamond burs and Arkansas stone + debridement using plastic ultrasonic scalers + rinsing with $H_2O_2$ 3% + titanium brush with an oscillating low speed + non- submerged heal- ing + combination of 500 mg amoxicillin and 500 mg metronidazole 3 times a day, for 7 days	Subject level BOP Test baseline: 100%, 12 months: 79% Control baseline: 100%, 12 months: 55%, between-group comparison: $p = 0.147$	Initial non-surgical therapy: OHI Access flap + implan- toplasty supracra- stally with diamond burs and Arkansas stone + debridement using plastic ultrasonic scalers + rinsing with $H_2O_2$ 3% + titanium brush with an oscillating low speed + non- submerged heal- ing + combination of 500 mg amoxicillin and 500 mg metronidazole 3 times a day, for 7 days	Patients were seen at weekly intervals for the first 4 weeks to monitor healing and, then, at 3- month intervals during the first year. The additional use of a titanium brush during combined treatment of peri-implantitis resulted in statistically significant benefits in terms of PD reduction:

RCT randomized clinical trial, OHI oral hygiene instructions, BOP bleeding on probing, PD probing depth, SUPP suppuration, BI modified bleeding index, mBI modified bleeding index, RBL radiographic bone level, RDF radiographic bone level, RL soft-tissue level,  $H_2O_2$  hydrogen peroxide

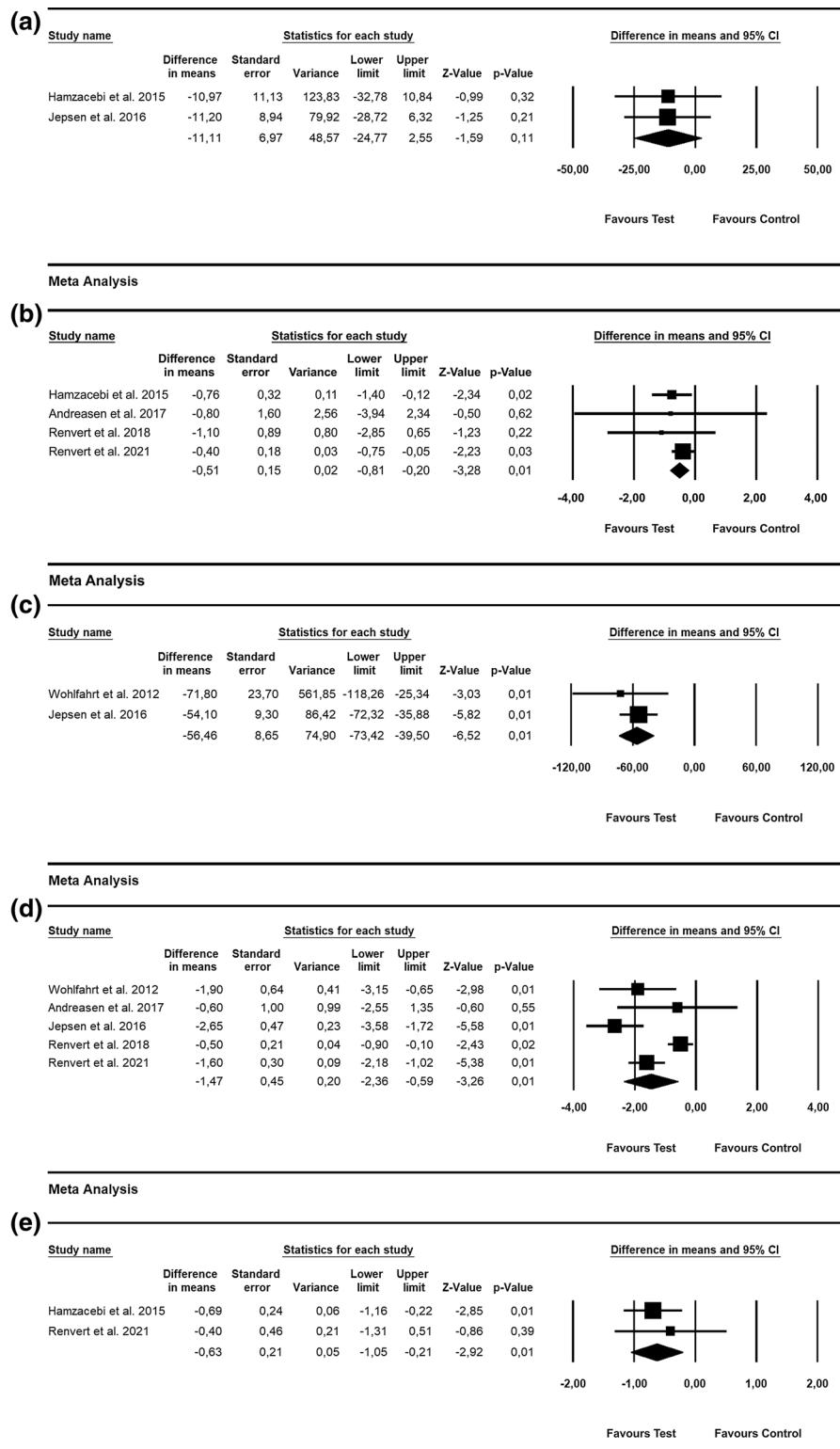


**Fig. 4** Forest plot indicating weighted mean difference (95% CI) in the changes of clinical outcomes following non-reconstructive surgical treatment of peri-implantitis. **a** Adjunctive implantoplasty (implant-level analysis)—PD. **b** Adjunctive implantoplasty (implant-level analysis)—ML. **c** Adjunctive systemic antibiotics (implant-level analysis)—PD

### Reconstruction of peri-implant bone defects with and without a membrane

One 3-year CCT reported significantly lower PD reduction and less RDF at implant sites treated with autogenous bone along with non-resorbable membrane compared with those treated with either autogenous bone alone or in combination with resorbable membrane [87]. Peri-implantitis defects reconstructed using bovine bone along with a collagen membrane after 4 years showed significantly lower BOP and PD values compared with the implant sites treated with synthetic bone filler (i.e., nanocrystalline hydroxyapatite particles) [83].

Another 5-year CCT indicated no beneficial effect of the adjunctive use of a synthetic resorbable membrane along with xenogenic bone substitute particles, as the changes in PD, ML, and RDF were comparable between the treatment groups [90]. Furthermore, the comparison of the 2 membranes (i.e., concentrated growth factor membrane and collagen membrane) applied over the xenogenic bone filler after 1 year resulted in similar BOP changes and comparable RDF, whereas a greater PD reduction was registered at sites treated with the adjunctive collagen membrane [85].



**Fig. 5** Forest plots depicting weighted mean differences (95% CI) in the changes of primary and secondary outcomes between reconstructive and non-reconstructive peri-implantitis surgical treatment. **a** BOP reduction (implant-level analysis). **b** PD (mm; implant-level analysis). **c** RDF (%; implant-level analysis). **d** Radiographic defect reduction (mm; implant-level analysis). **e** ML (implant-level analysis)

### **Reconstructive therapy versus non-reconstructive surgery**

Six RCTs (7 studies) assessed the clinical efficacy of reconstructive therapy over access flap surgery [75–81, 93] (Table 4 b). One to 7 years following the treatment, a significantly higher RDF was observed at the implant sites treated with either titanium granules or xenograft bone filler, as compared with the control sites (i.e., access flap surgery) [75, 76, 78, 80, 93]. On a contrary, as noted in 2 RCTs with 6-month and 5-year follow-up periods, the adjunctive use of either enamel matrix protein (EMD) or platelet-rich fibrin (PRF) had no beneficial effect upon RDF changes [77, 79, 81]. In terms clinical outcomes, after 1- to 7-years of follow-up, the PD and BOP changes did not differ between the implant sites treated with either titanium porous granules or xenogenic bone filler particles and those obtained at the control sites [75, 76, 80, 93]. Two studies, in contrast, reported greater PD reduction after 1 year at implants treated with either adjunctive xenogenic bone substitute or PRF, while changes on BOP values were similar between the test and control groups [78, 79]. Regarding changes to soft-tissue levels, the use of xenogenic bone filler particles did not lead to superior ML outcomes after 1 year [78, 80], whereas implant sites treated with adjunctive PRF after 6 months showed significantly lower ML values as compared to the controls (test: 0.14 mm, control: 1.04 mm) [79].

### **Synthesis of results**

#### **Adjunctive implantoplasty following non-reconstructive treatment**

A meta-analysis based on 2 RCTs indicated the WMD in PD of  $-1.11$  [ $SE=0.48$ ;  $p=0.02$ ; 95% CI  $(-2.05, -0.18)$ ] (unit of analysis: implant);  $p$  value for heterogeneity: 0.429,  $I^2=0\%$ =low heterogeneity), thus suggesting higher PD reduction at implant sites treated with implantoplasty [71–73]. The WMD in ML amounted to  $-0.02$  [ $SE=0.28$ ;  $p=0.95$ ; 95% CI  $(-0.56, 0.53)$ ; unit of analysis: implant], pointing to no significant difference between test and control groups in terms of soft-tissue level changes ( $p$  value for heterogeneity: 0.99,  $I^2=0\%$ =low heterogeneity) [71, 72] (Fig. 4a and b).

#### **Adjunctive systemic antibiotics following non-reconstructive treatment**

Based on 2 RCTs with 1 year of follow-up, WMD in PD amounted to  $-0.95$  [ $SE=0.83$ ;  $p=0.26$ ; 95% CI  $(-2.58, 0.69)$ ]; unit of analysis: implant), thus not favoring administration of adjunctive systemic antibiotics following non-reconstructive peri-implantitis treatment ( $p$  value for heterogeneity: 0.009,  $I^2=85.39\%$ =substantial heterogeneity; Fig. 4c).

### **Reconstructive therapy versus non-reconstructive surgery**

The WMD in BOP reduction was  $-11.11\%$  [ $SE=5.97$ ;  $p=0.11$ ; 95% CI  $(-24.77, 2.55)$ ] (unit of analysis: implant), indicating no differences between reconstructive and non-reconstructive treatment approaches ( $p$  value for heterogeneity: 0.983,  $I^2=0\%$ =low heterogeneity) [79, 97] (Fig. 5a). The WMD in PD revealed a significant difference between the test and control groups (WMD =  $-0.51$  mm [ $SE=0.15$ ;  $p=0.01$ ; 95% CI  $(-0.81, -0.20)$ ] (unit of analysis: implant) that favored adjunctive reconstructive approaches ( $p$  value for heterogeneity: 0.28,  $I^2=21\%$ =low heterogeneity) [78–80, 93] (Fig. 5b). The WMD in RDF amounted to  $-56.46\%$  [ $SE=8.65$ ;  $p=0.01$ ; 95% CI  $(-73.42, -39.50)$ ] (unit of analysis: implant), pointing to a higher defect fill in the test group ( $p$  value for heterogeneity: 0.487,  $I^2=0\%$ =low heterogeneity) [75, 76] (Fig. 5c). Based on data from 4 RCTs, the WMD in reduction of radiographic defects was  $-1.47$  mm [ $SE=0.45$ ;  $p=0.01$ ; 95% CI  $(-2.36, -0.59)$ ] (unit of analysis: implant), suggesting significantly higher reduction in the test group ( $p$  value for heterogeneity: 0.389,  $I^2=0\%$ =low heterogeneity) (Fig. 5d). The WMD in ML was  $-0.63$  mm [ $SE=0.21$ ;  $p=0.01$ ; 95% CI  $(-1.05, -0.21)$ ] (unit of analysis: implant), favoring reconstructive measures ( $p$  value for heterogeneity: 0.579,  $I^2=0\%$ =low heterogeneity) [79, 80] (Fig. 5e).

### **Risk of bias in individual studies**

Of the included 55 RCTs, 23 appeared to have an overall unclear risk of bias, 18 were judged to have a high risk of bias, and the remaining 14 had a low risk of bias (Additional file 2a).

Four of the included CCTs had an overall serious risk of bias, and the remaining 3 had an overall critical risk of bias (Additional file 2b).

### **Discussion**

The present systematic review aimed to evaluate the efficacy of alternative and adjunctive measures compared to conventional treatment of peri-implant mucositis and peri-implantitis. In total, 55 RCTs and 7 CCTs were included in the analysis. Of those, 18 reported on non-surgical treatments of peri-implant mucositis, and 17 and 27 reported on non-surgical and surgical peri-implantitis treatments, respectively.

The primary goal of peri-implant mucositis treatment has been established as the resolution of inflammation as evidenced by the absence of BOP [98]. Based on the current data synthesis, the investigated alternative measures for biofilm removal (i.e., glycine powder air polishing and chitosan brushes) and adjunctive measures (i.e., diode laser, aPDT, local antiseptic therapy, probiotics,

home care mouth rinse) failed to improve BOP scores over mechanical debridement alone. In terms of PD values, while the adjunctive use of local antiseptics (i.e., CHX and sodium hypochlorite) along with mechanical debridement led to significantly greater PD reduction ( $\text{WMD} = -0.23 \text{ mm}$ ,  $p=0.03$ , respectively), similar PD improvements were noted regardless of the implementation of the aforementioned adjunctive measures for biofilm removal, aPDT, probiotics or home care mouthrinse. The present findings partially align with the results of previous systematic reviews and meta-analyses according to which adjunctive measures for treating peri-implant mucositis (i.e., antiseptics, local and systemic antibiotics, air-abrasive devices) failed to improve the efficacy of professionally administered plaque removal in reducing clinical signs of inflammation, as shown by comparable changes in BOP and PD values [13, 99]. However, the calculations in those analyses were based on pooled data from clinical studies that employed both local and systemic adjunctive measures (i.e., local and systemic antibiotics), which in turn might at least partially explain the aforementioned discrepancies [13, 99]. Taken together, the use of investigated adjunctive and alternative measures were not found to be superior in resolving peri-implant mucositis, thus supporting recent consensus statements suggesting that non-surgical mechanical instrumentation in conjunction with oral hygiene reinforcement is a standard-of-care intervention for the management of peri-implant mucositis [4, 12, 100].

According to recent recommendations, results of peri-implantitis treatment should be assessed following a healing period of at least 6 months and should be based on a composite outcome, including parameters such as bone fill, peri-implant soft tissue recession, PD, BOP, and SUPP [97, 98]. The present analysis included clinical studies reporting on peri-implantitis treatment outcomes with an observation period of at least 6 months [97]. In contrast to peri-implant mucositis, non-surgical treatment of peri-implantitis including alternative measures for biofilm removal (i.e., glycine powder air polishing, Er:YAG laser) yielded higher BOP reduction compared to conventional measures (i.e., mechanical debridement with or without CHX;  $\text{WMD} = -28.09\%$ ,  $p=0.01$ ), whereas these improvements were not observed in PD scores ( $\text{WMD} = -0.27 \text{ mm}$ ,  $p=0.19$ ). Additionally, BOP and PD reductions were not improved by the adjunctive use of local antiseptics/antibiotics (BOP  $\text{WMD} = -10.65\%$ ,  $p=0.06$ ; PD  $\text{WMD} = -0.25 \text{ mm}$ ,  $p=0.16$ ), nor by the use of probiotics (PD  $\text{WMD} = -0.15$ ,  $p=0.35$ ). Furthermore, soft-tissue level changes following treatment were similar regardless of whether alternative biofilm removal measures ( $\text{WMD} = -0.21$ ,  $p=0.55$ ) or local antiseptics ( $\text{WMD} = -0.11$ ,  $p=0.22$ ) were employed.

The aforementioned findings corroborate the results of one former meta-analysis, which reported significantly greater BOP reduction at implant sites treated with either adjunctive local antibiotic therapy (i.e., minocycline microspheres) or alternative plaque removal measures (i.e., Er:YAG laser or glycine powder air polishing) over respective control treatments [13]. Further analysis revealed a significantly higher reduction in BOP and PD values throughout the 12-month period with administration of systemic antibiotics along with the mechanical debridement ( $\text{WMD} = -17.35\%$ ,  $p=0.01$  and  $\text{WMD} = -1.46 \text{ mm}$ ,  $p=0.01$ , respectively). However, this estimation is based on only 2 RCTs, one of which included only severe cases of peri-implantitis (case definition:  $\text{BOP} + \text{PD} > 5 \text{ mm} + \text{bone loss} > 4 \text{ mm}$ ) and found no beneficial effect of systemic antibiotics (amoxicillin + metronidazole) following non-surgical peri-implantitis treatment [58]. Likewise, one recent RCT reported no clinical and microbiological benefits of systemic antibiotics (amoxicillin + metronidazole) along with non-surgical treatment of peri-implantitis (case definition:  $\text{bone loss} \geq 2 \text{ mm} + \text{BOP}/\text{SUPP} + \text{PD} \geq 5 \text{ mm}$ ) compared to mechanical debridement and local CHX irrigation after 3 months, thus concluding that the administration of systemic antibiotics should not be routinely recommended [101]. Notably, the majority of the included studies reported on residual BOP/BI scores following non-surgical peri-implantitis treatment, and disease resolution (i.e., absence of BOP and further bone loss) was obtained in 14% to 47% of the cases 6 to 12 months after the treatment [45, 52, 56]. Therefore, in line with earlier findings, non-surgical treatment of peri-implantitis seems to have limited efficacy in predictably resolving inflammation, thus supporting the necessity of surgical treatment in the majority of patients diagnosed with peri-implantitis [12, 102]. Nonetheless, according to the recent recommendations, non-surgical therapy should always precede surgical intervention in treating peri-implantitis [102].

Due to heterogeneity in reporting, no quantitative analysis was feasible for the impact of implantoplasty on the resolution of peri-implant tissue inflammation (i.e., BOP/SUPP changes) following surgical non-reconstructive peri-implantitis treatment. Nonetheless, based on the present findings, though implant sites treated with or without implantoplasty resulted in similar postoperative changes in soft-tissue levels ( $\text{WMD} = -0.02 \text{ mm}$ ,  $p=0.95$ ), significantly higher PD reduction was found at sites treated with adjunctive implantoplasty ( $\text{WMD} = -1.11 \text{ mm}$ ,  $p=0.02$ ). With respect to the rationale for administration of systemic antibiotics following non-reconstructive peri-implantitis treatment, no differences in PD improvements were found between the test and control groups throughout the 12-month

period ( $\text{WMD} = -0.95 \text{ mm}$ ,  $p = 0.26$ ). This latter finding supports the results of a 3-year RCT, which after 1 year observed positive effects of systemic antibiotics on the non-reconstructive peri-implantitis treatment success (i.e.,  $\text{PD} \leq 5 \text{ mm}$ , no BOP/SUPP, bone loss  $\leq 0.5 \text{ mm}$ ) at implants with a modified surface [61]. However, those benefits were not sustained over a 3-year period, thus not supporting the benefits of the systemic antibiotic regimen [18].

Six RCTs evaluated the potential beneficial effect of reconstructive peri-implantitis treatment over control approaches (i.e., access flap). In particular, meta-analyses identified a significantly higher RDF ( $\text{WMD} = -56.46\%$ ,  $p = 0.01$ ), radiographic defect resolution ( $\text{WMD} = -1.47 \text{ mm}$ ;  $p = 0.01$ ) and greater PD reduction at the implant sites treated with adjunctive reconstructive measures compared to the controls ( $-0.51 \text{ mm}$ ,  $p = 0.01$ ). However, in terms of resolution of mucosal inflammation (i.e., BOP changes), no differences could be detected between the test and control groups ( $\text{WMD} = -11.11\%$ ;  $p = 0.11$ ). Those findings slightly contradict the results of previous meta-analyses that reported on radiographic bone-level gains and RDF for reconstructive treatment approaches over access flap surgery, whereas similar values were reported for PD and BOP changes [103, 104]. Nonetheless, noteworthy are the discrepancies among the studies included in the present meta-analysis with respect to grafting materials with different radiopacities and osteoconduction properties, which might have influenced the obtained outcomes. Upon further data analysis, implant sites treated with adjunctive reconstructive measures yielded lower postoperative changes soft-tissue recession compared to sites treated via access flap surgery ( $\text{WMD} = -0.63 \text{ mm}$ ;  $p = 0.01$ ). This latter outcome corroborates the results of one recent meta-analysis, according to which use of adjunctive reconstructive measures lead to significantly lower increase in mucosal recession when compared to non-reconstructive peri-implantitis treatment ( $\text{WMD} = -1.35 \text{ mm}$ ,  $p = 0.038$ ) [104].

Along these lines, it is worthwhile to note that the treatment outcomes of peri-implant mucositis and peri-implantitis might be influenced by the surface characteristics of the abutment and/or implant. In fact, clinical data have reported greater BOP reduction following the treatment of experimentally induced peri-implant mucositis lesions at implants with machined abutments, as compared to the modified surfaced abutments [105]. As documented by the previous analyses, significantly better outcomes were obtained after surgical non-reconstructive therapy of peri-implantitis at implants with non-modified surfaces compared to modified surfaces, as shown by the superior BOP, PD reductions

and superior bone-level preservation at non-modified surfaced implants [15, 18]. Additionally, more favorable clinical and radiographic outcomes of surgical reconstructive peri-implantitis therapy were documented for moderately rough surfaced implants compared to rough surfaced implants [106]. The results of a majority of the studies included in the present analysis were based on implants with modified surfaces. Thus, due to the limited data availability, subanalyses to validate the extent to which implant/abutment surface properties might have influenced the treatment outcomes of peri-implant mucositis and peri-implantitis were not feasible.

Several limitations of the present systematic review must be addressed. First, a majority of the included studies lacked true control groups and therefore could not be included in the quantitative analysis. Second, most studies included in meta-analysis had follow-up periods that were limited to 12 months, thus the present findings are valid only for the short-term outcomes. Further, the present analysis pooled clinical studies that applied different case definitions for peri-implant mucositis and peri-implantitis. In fact, depending on the individual protocols used, factors such as peri-implant bone defect morphology and severity of the disease have previously been found to be influencing factors for the outcomes following surgical treatment of peri-implantitis [105–108]. Finally, peri-implant soft-tissue conditions (i.e., presence or lack of keratinized mucosa), patients' adherence to supportive therapy following peri-implant mucositis and peri-implantitis treatment as well as patient-related factors, such as smoking habits, systemic conditions (i.e., diabetes) and intake of different medications may also be important factors contributing to the outcomes of therapy. However, in the present analysis, due to inconsistencies in reporting among the studies, potential effects of these factors on treatment outcomes of peri-implant diseases could not be investigated.

## Conclusions

Alternative and adjunctive measures provided no beneficial effect in resolving peri-implant mucositis, while alternative measures were superior in reducing BOP values following non-surgical peri-implantitis treatment. Adjunctive reconstructive measures along with surgical peri-implantitis treatment were beneficial regarding radiographic bone-defect fill/reduction, PD reduction and lower soft-tissue recession, although they did not improve the resolution of mucosal inflammation. Systemic antibiotics added no benefits to surgical non-reconstructive peri-implantitis treatment outcomes. The potential benefits of resective measures upon inflammation resolution need to be further investigated.

## Abbreviations

RCT: Randomized clinical trial; OHI: Oral hygiene instructions; BOP: Bleeding on probing; mBOP: Modified bleeding on probing index; PD: Probing depth; SUPP: Suppuration; BI: Bleeding index; mBI: Modified bleeding index; aPDT: Antibacterial photodynamic therapy.

## Supplementary Information

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**Additional file 1.** Additional references.

**Additional file 2.** a. Risk-of-bias summary of included randomized trial according to the RoB2 risk of bias tool for randomized studies. b. Risk-of-bias summary according to the ROBINS-I risk of bias tool for non-randomized studies.

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## Authors' contributions

AR: study design, conception and interpretation of data, data collection, interpretation and analysis, manuscript writing. TF: made substantial contribution to the interpretation of data and manuscript critical revision. FS: study design, conception and interpretation of data, data collection, interpretation and analysis, manuscript writing and critical revision. All authors read and approved the final manuscript.

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## Availability of data and materials

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## Declarations

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### Consent for publication

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### Competing interests

The authors declare that they have no conflict of interests related to this study.

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